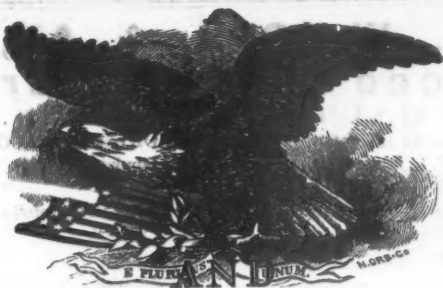


ARMY



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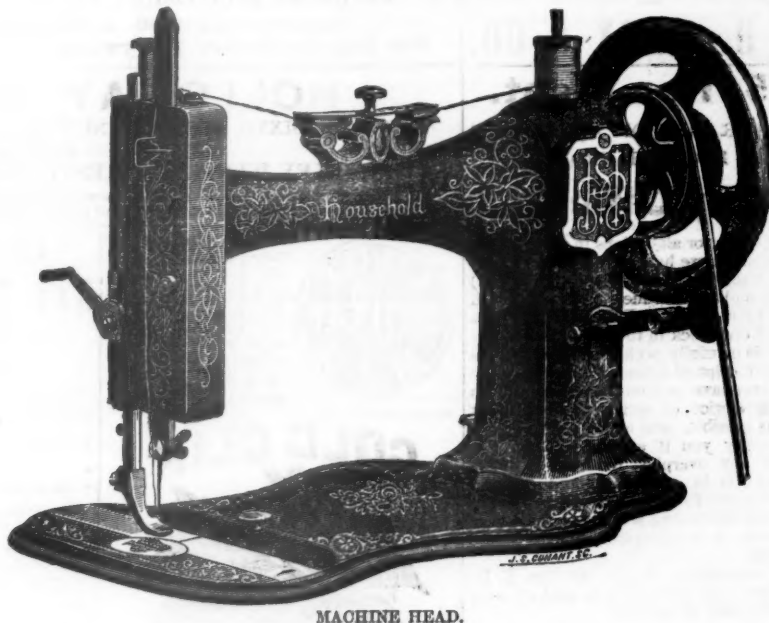
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VOLUME XIX.—NUMBER 51.
WHOLE NUMBER 957.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1881.

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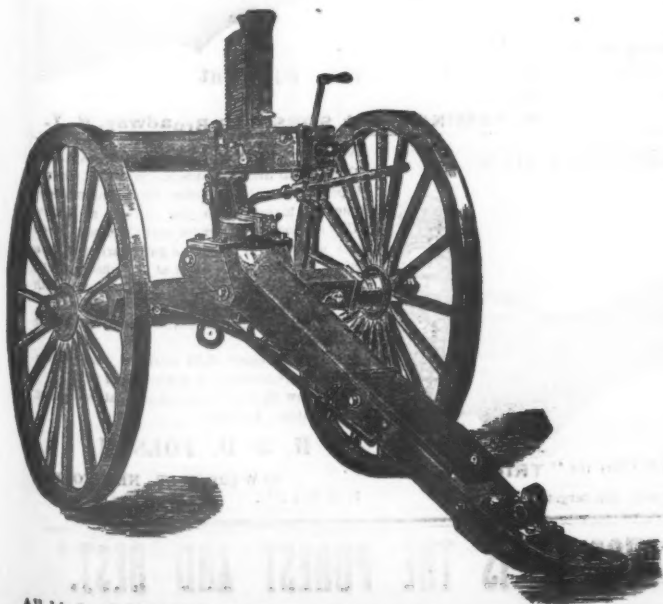
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Liabilities, . . . 13,252,078.5.

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ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

VOLUME XIX.—NUMBER 21.
WHOLE NUMBER 567.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1881.

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Branch Office, 1420 New York Ave., N. W., Wash'n.
SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

GEN. H. J. Hunt, U. S. A., still remains at Washington, D. C., on special service.

JUDGE ADVOCATE General Dunn, U. S. A., registered in New York December 17, stopping at the Brevoort House.

LIEUT. Barnet Wager, 2d U. S. Artillery, lately at Rhinebeck, N. Y., on sick leave, came to New York this week to be examined by a medical board.

SURGEON E. P. Vollum, U. S. A., passed through New York December 22, from Fort Hamilton, to serve on a medical board at Governor's Island. His health seems much improved.

LIEUT. G. L. Anderson, 4th U. S. Artillery, made a brief stay at the St. James Hotel, New York, this week.

MAJOR J. G. C. Lee, Quartermaster, U. S. A., was expected in St. Louis this week to assume charge of the Quartermaster's depot there. His assignment to duty at Buffalo, New York, has been rescinded.

SURGEON H. N. Beaumont, U. S. N., was in Philadelphia early this week, stopping at the Girard House.

CAPTAIN T. O. Selfridge, U. S. N., was at the Everett House, New York, this week.

CAPTAIN R. L. Phythian, U. S. N., registered at the Astor House, New York, this week.

NAVAL CONSTRUCTOR F. L. Fernald, U. S. N., paid a visit to New York this week, stopping at the Grand Hotel.

SURGEON W. S. King, U. S. A., was in New York this week, registering at the 5th Avenue Hotel.

CAPTAIN J. B. Rawles, 5th Artillery, was in New York, Dec. 19, on a brief visit from Fort Schuyler.

LIEUT. Edwin H. Webber, 20th Infantry, arrived at Fort Leavenworth this week to go through a course at the School of Application.

GENERAL Thomas H. Neill, U. S. A., was in New York this week from Jefferson Barracks, stopping temporarily at the Astor House. He will likely remain in this vicinity until after the Christmas holidays.

COLONEL J. P. Hatch, 2d U. S. Cavalry, has assumed command of Fort Custer, Montana, and been warmly welcomed at that pleasant post.

REAR-ADMIRAL George H. Preble, U. S. N., is stopping at the Colonnade Hotel, Philadelphia.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL D. B. Sacket, U. S. A., was in New York this week, looking as burly and vigorous as ever. He stopped at the Grand Hotel.

ONE of England's naval veterans died a few days ago, Admiral Edward Joseph Burd, in his eighty-third year. He entered the navy as midshipman in 1812. In the polar expedition of 1821-23 he was mate of the *Hecla*, and served on the *Fury* until she was wrecked in 1825. He made another voyage in the *Hecla*, and participated in the expedition by sledges that reached the high latitude of 82 deg. 45 min. Promoted lieutenant in 1827, he went to the Antarctic Ocean on a voyage of discovery in 1839-43. In 1848-9 he commanded the *Investigator* in the search for Franklin under Sir John Ross. He was made an admiral in 1875.

MAJOR H. B. Reese, Paymaster U. S. A., has come East from St. Paul on a brief sick leave to recuperate his health, which has been poor for some time.

LIEUT. B. C. Van Vliet, 10th U. S. Inf., left Fort Wayne, Mich., a few days ago, to spend Christmas with his friends in Washington.

LIEUT. F. C. Grugan, 2d U. S. Artillery, left Fort Monroe Friday of this week to spend the Christmas holidays with his friends.

PROFESSOR P. S. Michie, U. S. A., registered at the Gilsey House, N. Y., this week from West Point.

A SOMEWHAT celebrated Arctic explorer, Dr. I. I. Hayes, died suddenly in New York, December 17, of heart disease. He served as a surgeon of Volunteers during the war.

CAPTAIN Frank B. Hamilton, 2d U. S. Artillery, passed through Baltimore this week to spend a few weeks leave with his friends.

GENERAL Joseph E. Johnson charges Jefferson Davis with having a large sum of money belonging to the Confederate Treasury at the evacuation of Richmond for which he has never accounted. He says that he was informed by Gen. Beauregard that the President had \$2,500,000 in specie at Greensboro, and adds that he has no doubt Gen. Beauregard's estimate was within bounds. This charge is denied by Branton N. Harrison, who was at the time referred to Mr. Davis's private secretary.

T. P. M., writing to the *New York Times*, Dec. 5, from Miles City, Montana, says: Winter amusements have set in notwithstanding the reluctance of the season to assert itself. Several brilliant entertainments have already been given in Miles City and at Fort Keogh. In military society the most marked festive occurrence was a bridal reception given at Fort Keogh, on Nov. 18, to the ladies who have recently married officers of the garrison. It would appear as though the close of the Indian struggle had given rise to a perfect matrimonial epidemic, particularly in the 5th Infantry, there being no fewer than seven Benedicts of that

regiment, with their fair brides, to sustain the blushing honors of the occasion. The officers were Brevet Lieut.-Col. E. Rice, regimental adjutant, and Lieuts. Bailey, Bowen, Tillson, Liggett, Miller, and Chatfield. The same correspondent, advertising to the completion of the railroad to Miles City, says: The ease and despatch with which troops could be concentrated now in the heart of the Yellowstone Valley gives Gen. Terry a control of this portion of his department such as has not heretofore been assured to him by even the most brilliant combinations of his most energetic lieutenants; and even if the hostiles were still in this Territory they would have little or no opportunity of carrying on a concerted warfare in the vicinity of the settled districts. The difference between a 40 hours' railroad ride from St. Paul and the tedious and laborious marches which attended the passage of Crook and Terry and Custer into this region in 1876 illustrates as effectively as possible the contrasts which the advancing tide of civilization is pouring upon this community. Speaking of Glendive he says: Glendive is owned jointly by the Northern Pacific and a town site company, made up, for the most part, of Army officers, with Major Lewis Merrill, of the 7th Cavalry, as its President. Major Merrill some fourteen months ago filed Sioux half-breed scrip in the District Land Office for about 900 acres of unsurveyed land on the east bank of the Yellowstone, a mile or so this side of Glendive Creek. A handsomer site for a town could scarcely be imagined.

THE Piute Indian Princess Winnemucca, now Mrs. Hopkins, is coming east to lecture on "Indian Agencies" and the "Indian Question as Viewed from an Indian Standpoint." Her husband, Mr. L. H. Hopkins, will accompany her. He was a sub-Indian Agent, who had charge of 500 Piute and Bannock prisoners at Camp Harvey after the last Bannock war. While in that position he became acquainted with the chief's daughter, Sarah, who was the Government interpreter for several years at the reservation. After several years courtship the sub-Agent and the female interpreter were married recently in the Russ House.

GENERAL S. W. Crawford, U. S. A., registered at the Lafayette Hotel, Philadelphia, this week.

COLONEL John B. Brooke, 3d U. S. Infantry, is stopping at the New York Hotel.

COMMODORE John G. Walker, U. S. A., came to New York this week to attend the trial of the torpedo boat *Destroyer*, at the New York Navy-yard.

LIEUTENANT E. Rice, 5th U. S. Infantry, left Fort Keogh a few days ago on a brief leave, to return after the Christmas holidays.

THE *Arizona Miner*, of Dec. 9, says: The entertainment given last evening at Whipple Barracks to General and Mrs. O. B. Wilcox, by the officers and ladies of the 12th Infantry, was a brilliant and very pleasant affair, and was well attended by the elite of Prescott and Whipple. The hall, under the management of Lieut. Wotherspoon, was skillfully and artistically decorated with evergreen, banners, flags, etc. Dancing was called at 9.15 and continued until 11.15, when all proceeded to the dining hall to partake of the magnificent supper prepared by several ladies of the post. Supper over, dancing was again resumed until 3.30 A. M. Among those present were Gen. Wilcox and wife, Col. Benjamin, wife and daughter, Dr. Smith and wife, Col. Johnson and daughters, Major Arnold and wife, Col. Hodge, Capt. Eagan, wife and two daughters, Major Egbert and wife, Capt. King and wife, Major Cochran and wife, Dr. Skinner and wife, Lieut. Wilson and wife, Lieut. Ward and wife, Lieut. Evans and mother, Lieut. Wotherspoon, and many prominent citizens.

THE approaching termination of the Guitau trial is bringing into renewed interest the case of Sergt. Mason, 2d U. S. Artillery, now in confinement at Washington Barracks for attempting to shoot Guitau. Several statements have appeared in the daily press this week as to the cause of delay in bringing Sergt. Mason to trial, but it is extremely doubtful that any of them have hit the nail on the head.

It is authoritatively stated that no offer has been made to Secretary Hunt of the Navy of a position in the Court of Claims, and that if such an offer were made it would be refused.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *New York Times* gives a long account of a visit to Warsaw, New York, to call upon Col. A. B. Lawrence, who is described as "the man who can probably tell more about the surrender at Appomattox than any other man, excepting perhaps Gen. Grant." He has a large museum of Army relics, among them a piece of the table upon which the articles were signed at Appomattox. Concerning this table Col. Lawrence is reported as saying: "Gen. Sheridan desired to buy the table of Mr. McLean, the owner of the historic premises. McLean refused to part with it, whereupon Sheridan carried it off, leaving a fifty dollar greenback for it. But this is only one-half the history of this remarkable piece of furniture. The piece of it which you see here was given me by Mr. McLean, and was all of it that he retained from the somewhat pressing demands of Sheridan." Concerning the surrender at Appomattox, Col. Lawrence reports that when the flag of truce appeared "a perfect pandemonium followed; generals, colonels, and even grave and elderly officers who were not accustomed to give way to their feelings, laughed, cried, shouted, threw up their hats, and made all kinds of demonstrations of joy. Only

one man kept his head, and that was Gen. Grant. He turned his head over his shoulder to us; there was a slight expression of satisfaction on his face; and he uttered one of his characteristic brevities, which ought to become historic with the others. He merely said—and I perfectly remember the words—'Well, gentlemen, I thought we would fetch 'em!' " Col. Lawrence carried to Gen. Lee on the evening of the surrender the compliments of Gen. Grant and an order for 30,000 rations for Lee's hungry men. Of the interview with Gen. Lee he says: "He requested me to express his thanks to Gen. Grant, and then, with a very marked softening of his manner, he said: 'I believe you are a quartermaster with Gen. Grant?' I replied that I had that honor. 'My men,' he continued, 'can make known their wants; but there are about here many poor dumb animals who have not been fed for days. Will you see that they are provided for?' His eyes were moist as he made the request. It was a rare evidence of his goodness of heart that his thoughts at such a time were turned in that direction. I promised at once, and kept my promise."

THE bills introduced into Congress for the reinstatement of Army officers embrace the cases of James W. Schauburg, who was a 2d lieutenant of Mounted Rangers, and also of Dragons in 1833, who resigned in 1836, was reinstated in 1844 and dropped in 1845; Capt. D. T. Kirby, formerly of the 39th Infantry, who was by G. C. M. O. No. 67, A. G. O., 1868, cashiered and dismissed charged with conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, violation of 39th and 45th Articles of War, and conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline; Bvt.-Col. Herman Biggs, who resigned from the Q. M. Dept., U. S. A., Oct. 9, 1865; Military Storekeeper Wm. H. Gill, who first resigned and afterwards withdrawing his resignation was honorably mustered out of Service at his own request Dec. 16, 1870, and Capt. W. C. Hemphill, late 4th Cav., dismissed by G. C. M. O. No. 59, A. G. O., 1881, on charges of violation of 39th and 61st Articles of War.

INSPECTOR-GEN. Nelson H. Davis, U. S. A., visited New York this week, from Chicago, to the gratification of his many friends in this vicinity.

MAJOR T. J. Eckerson, Quartermaster U. S. A., visited New York this week, on leave from Boston, Mass.

GEN. Richard Arnold, U. S. A., was in Boston this week, on inspection service.

LIEUT. W. Everett, 4th U. S. Art., left Fort Adams, R. I., early this week on a brief leave.

PAYMASTER J. B. M. Potter, U. S. A., visited West Point, N. Y., this week, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

LIEUT. Chas. J. Bailey, 1st Art., will leave Fort Point, Cal., next week, for the Presidio of San Francisco, having been attached to Capt. Randol's battery at that post.

LIEUT. Charles H. Heyl, 23d U. S. Inf., was expected to join at Fort Leavenworth this week, for a course of instruction at the School of Application.

GEN. John P. Hawkins, U. S. A., left New York this week, to spend Christmas and New Year's with friends.

GEN. James B. Fry, U. S. A., although on the retired list, is as active and zealous as ever in all things military, and a special supporter of the Military Service Institution.

A "TUESDAY German Club" has been organized at Washington for the winter season, its committee of management being Lieut. J. A. Buchanan, 14th U. S. Inf., Lieuts. W. H. Emory, Jr., and F. H. Paine, Master W. C. Babcock, U. S. N., and others.

AT a concert given in Washington a few evenings ago, in aid of the Central Dispensary, were noticed Gen. Sherman and family, Gen., Mrs. and Miss McKeever, Gen. and Mrs. Hazen, Gen. Parke, Admiral Almy, Col. and Mrs. Winthrop, and many others.

A PROMINENT citizen of St. Louis, Mo., and a gallant soldier in days gone by, Major Henry S. Turner, died in that city, December 16. He was graduated from West Point, July 1, 1834, and promoted, same date, to a brevet second lieutenant in the 1st Dragoons; promoted 2d lieutenant August 15, 1835; 1st lieutenant March 3, 1837; was a captain and assistant adjutant-general on the staff from Nov. 17, 1838, to April 16, 1839; promoted captain 1st Dragoons April 21, 1846; brevetted major Dec. 6, 1846, for gallantry at San Pasqual (where he was wounded), San Gabriel, and Plains of Mesa, Cal. He resigned July 21, 1848, and since that time has resided mainly in St. Louis, holding many important public positions there. While in service he passed two years at the Cavalry School of Saumur, France, and assisted in the preparation of cavalry tactics for our service. His funeral was largely attended, principal among those present being Gen. Sherman, who went specially from Washington for the purpose.

SECRETARY Lincoln's wife will not begin receiving regularly until the first Wednesday in January, nor Secretary Folger's daughter receive calls at her father's residence until after the holidays. As Secretary Hunt's wife is in mourning for her father, his family will, of course, receive no formal visitors.

LIEUTENANT C. H. Ingalls, U. S. A., on leave, was in New York city this week.

BVT. LIEUT.-COL. Wm. M. Wherry, U. S. A., has taken up his residence for the winter at Elizabeth, N. J.

GENERAL George Crook was in Washington this week.

The New Hampshire Gazette, of Dec. 22, says with reference to the retirement of Chief Naval Constructor Essey: "Constructor Wilson, now stationed at the Portsmouth Navy yard, is acknowledged to be the ablest man in line of promotion for the place."

Lieut. J. S. Powell, Signal Corps, U. S. A., was in Rochester, N. Y., this week, on inspection service.

Colonel W. P. Craighill, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., was in Wilmington, N. C., Sunday last.

A CORRESPONDENT at a western (cavalry) post, where the horses have been suffering from a disease similar to the "pink eye" of the East, suggests that the Signal Service be utilized to give warning of the approach of such diseases, so that precautions can be taken in advance.

Captain E. H. Lincoln, 10th U. S. Infantry, passed through Detroit this week from Fort Wayne on a short leave of absence.

General George W. Cullum, U. S. A., presided at a meeting of the American Geographical Society held at Chickering Hall, New York city, Wednesday evening, Dec. 21. During the evening touching allusions were made to the recent death of Doctor Hayes, and the loss of the *Jeannette*, and circumstances connected therewith.

General W. T. Sherman was among those invited to the annual dinner of the New England Society of Pennsylvania, held at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, Dec. 22.

Captain Wallace F. Randolph, 5th Artillery, and Lieut. David Price, 1st Artillery, left Old Point Comfort Dec. 20, to remain away over the Christmas holidays.

Lieut. S. A. Allen, 5th Artillery, was in New York Dec. 23, on his way to Fort Hamilton from Fort Schuyler, at which latter post he has for some time been on temporary staff duty.

Lieut. Hamilton Rowan, 2d U. S. Artillery, left Washington Barracks Wednesday, Dec. 21, to spend the Christmas holidays with friends.

The bill before Congress to correct and complete the record of Col. B. H. Grierson, authorizes the War Department to recognize him as 1st Lieutenant of cavalry and aide-de-camp from May 8, 1861, to Oct. 24, 1861, and as major of the 6th Illinois Cavalry from Oct. 24, 1861, when he accepted his commission, Jan. 9, 1862, the date of muster with his regiment.

Paymaster A. B. Carey, U. S. A., registered at the Girard House, Philadelphia, December 21.

Lieut. Gregory Barrett, 10th U. S. Inf., returned to Fort Wayne, December 18, from attending the funeral of the late Lieut. Larke, at Buffalo.

Secretary Lincoln left Washington on Thursday last for Chicago where he will spend the holidays with his friends.

The following officers were registered at the Ebbitt House, Washington, during the week ending Dec. 22, 1881: Army—Lieut. Wm. Baird, 6th Cav.; 2d Lieut. D. Price, 1st Art.; Gen. George Crook, U. S. A.; 1st Lieut. and Brevet Captain Wm. O. Douglas, U. S. A., retired; Capt. and Brevet Lieut. Col. J. C. DeGress, U. S. A., retired. Navy—Masters Wm. H. Schetzle and Samuel Seabury; Surgeon Horatio N. Beaumont.

The second complimentary soiree and reception of the National Rifles, of Washington, D. C., which occurred Wednesday evening last, was a brilliant affair. Among the Army and Navy officers present were noticed Lieut. J. E. Morse, U. S. N.; Master Lucien Young, U. S. N.; Lieuts. Otto S. Hein, M. P. Maus, Albert L. Myer, Gilbert P. Cotton, W. A. Dinwiddie, all of the U. S. Army.

The following officers of the Army registered at Chicago, Ill., during the week ending Dec. 19, 1881: Thomas C. H. Smith, Paymaster, under orders; Geo. H. Cook, 1st Lieut. 19th Inf., en route to Fort Brown, Tex.; J. G. C. Lee, Maj. Q. M. Dept., en route to Buffalo, N. Y.; Louis H. Rucker, Capt. 9th Cav., leave; R. P. Hughes, Captain 3d Inf.; J. D. Mann, 2d Lieut. 7th Cav.; S. Baker, Capt. 6th Cav.; F. L. Shoemaker, Capt. 4th Cav.

The East Florida Seminary at Gainesville has secured a competent Professor of Military Science and Tactics in the recent assignment of Lieut. Arthur L. Wagner, 6th U. S. Infantry.

Lieut. Geo. B. Smith, 12th U. S. Inf., for some time past at Jamestown, N. Y., on sick leave, was to leave there Dec. 23 for Washington, to report to Gen. Drum.

Lieut. G. F. E. Harrison, 2d Art., left Fort Monroe Dec. 23 to enjoy a three weeks' leave.

General George Crook, U. S. A., was in Washington this week, and is expected to pay a brief visit to New York before returning to Omaha.

General S. W. Crawford, U. S. A., presided at the banquet given at Philadelphia, Tuesday evening, December 20, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the battle of Drainesville. Amongst those present were Colonel G. A. Woodward, U. S. A., and Colonel George Meade. Amongst the many toasts was one to General E. O. C. Ord, U. S. A., which was enthusiastically received.

General Washington Post, No. 103, Grand Army of the Republic, held its annual meeting in the Hotel Brunswick, New York, Thursday evening. Commander McMahon used as a gavel a bright steel hatchet with a rosewood handle. The members of the post were in evening dress and wore miniature tomahawks on the lapels of their coats. The Chairman reminded the members that "the reception season" was at hand, and it was decided to have a reception during the month of January either at the Hotel Brunswick or at the Union League Club. Officers of the Post for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Commander—Gen. M. T. McMahon; Senior Vice-Commander—Gen. Lloyd Aspinwall;

Junior Vice-Commander—Paymaster Theodore S. Thompson, U. S. N.; Quartermaster—Capt. Thomas C. Miles, U. S. A.; Officer of the Day—Lieut. E. J. Arthur, U. S. N.; Officer of the Guard—Major Ivan Tallof; Surgeon—Medical Director Charles Martin, U. S. Navy; Delegates to Grand Encampment—Major Obed Wheeler and Capt. Miles; Alternates—Charles L. Wilson and William Broadhead. At the close of the election the members and invited guests sat down to an informal dinner. Among the invited guests were: Lieut. J. E. Sawyer, 5th Art.; Capt. J. N. Wheeler, 2d Cav.; Surgeon J. C. McKee, U. S. A.; Admiral R. H. Wyman, U. S. N.; Gen. Milhan, Col. Burnett, Major Smith, Major J. A. Broadhead, U. S. A.; Lieut. G. M. Totten, U. S. S. Tennessee; Col. Raymond, Major Butler, and Major Hedden.

General R. B. Ayres, U. S. A., left Washington Barracks Dec. 22, to spend a few days leave in Maryland.

Lieut. E. D. Hoyle, 2d Art., left Washington Dec. 23, to spend Christmas week with his friends.

Lieut. F. H. E. Ebstein, 21st U. S. Infantry, paid a visit to Fort Hamilton Dec. 24, on recruiting duty.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR, Senator Hawley, and Lieutenant Commander Gorringer, U. S. Navy, were among the invited guests at the New England dinner, at Delmonico's, Thursday. Had not Mr. Gorringer modestly kept himself in the background he might, perhaps, have been made as uncomfortable as the President was by the persistent calls for his autograph. General Sherman who sent a regret, made no secret of the fact that he declined because he was tired of responding to the toast of the Army. An amusing story recently published represents the General as weeping when he heard the strains of "Marching through Georgia," at a dinner party he attended, explaining to General Grant, who sat by his side, that it was the three million, three hundred and eighty-seventh thousandth time he had heard it, and that he was so tired of it that he was heartily sorry he ever marched through Georgia. Moral—"Seek to be good, but aim not to be great."

The following Army officers were registered at the Adjt.-General's Office, Washington, during the week ending Dec. 22, 1881: 1st Lieut. George K. Spencer, 19th Infantry, on leave; 2d Lieut. Fred. W. Foster, 5th Cavalry, on leave; Bvt. Brig.-Gen. and Col. Thomas G. Pitcher, U. S. A., retired; 1st Lieut. George L. Anderson, 4th Artillery, on leave (the above named officers are also registered at the Ebbitt House); Bvt. Major Charles B. Throckmorton, captain 4th Artillery, on leave; Bvt. Major Lewis C. Forsyth, captain and A. Q. M., at 1013 "H" street, by Special Order; Bvt. Major Edwin B. Atwood, captain and A. Q. M., at Willard's Hotel; Capt. Erasmus C. Gilbreath, 11th Infantry, on leave; Bvt. Brig.-Gen. Cyrus B. Comstock, lieutenant-colonel Engineer Corps, at 1509 R. I. avenue, on leave; 1st Lieut. Wm. A. Dinwiddie, 2d Cavalry, at 1201 R. I. avenue, on sick leave; Asst. Surg. T. J. C. Maddox, at 203 13th street, under orders to report in person to the Surgeon-General; 2d Lieut. Wm. W. Galbraith, 5th Artillery, at Metropolitan Hotel, on leave.

The Omaha Herald, of Dec. 15, says: Major Guido Iges, 5th Infantry, who brought Sitting Bull into camp last winter, is in the city, stopping at the Withnell. He is returning to report at headquarters at St. Paul, from his duties in Montana. He has been engaged at Fort Keogh, in auditing the claims of the citizen soldiers, who served under him in the pursuit of the Nez Percés and the fight with them at Cow Island in 1877. Major Iges is an officer in the prime of life, of powerful physique, and from his appearance, possessing fully the determination and perseverance, which were required to "round up" Sitting Bull and his band in the campaign of the past rigorous winter.

The case of Capt. James Egan, U. S. A., retired, who was tried by a G. O. M. at Governor's Island in May last, has finally received the action of the President. Capt. E. was sentenced to be dismissed, but recommended by all the members of the court to Executive clemency. The President decided Dec. 13 as follows: "The sentence in the foregoing case of Capt. James Egan, retired, is not confirmed, for the reason that the element of fraud, essential to bring the failure to liquidate indebtedness within the purview of the charge of 'conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman,' is not found to have been established by proof." The proceedings in the case of Capt. Egan are published in G. O. M. O. No. 70. He was found guilty on the charges of "conduct unbecoming," etc., and "conduct to the prejudice," etc. The specifications alleged—neglect to pay \$137.30 due a post trader; to carry out an understanding with Major Briabin who made himself responsible for it, and neglect of communications sent from the War Department on the subject.

The Washington Star says: "It can be said upon good authority that the findings of the Court of Inquiry in the Cadet Whittaker case are that he was guilty of cutting his own ears. It is not known what was the action of the Judge Advocate General, but it is understood that he approved the findings."

The 3d Michigan Infantry had a reunion at Big Rapids on Dec. 13, the 19th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg, in which this regiment took a prominent part. The organization numbers at present 115 members all scattered over the United States, 350 of whom answered when the roll was called at the beginning of the meeting.

Commander John P. Chryne, B. N., left New York for Canada Dec. 23. Previous to his departure he addressed a letter to the New York Herald, in which he says: "Upon the invitation of Sir John Macdonald and Sir Leonard Tilley I start to-morrow for Canada to gain co-operation of the Canadian people. I expect to be back in New York about

Jan. 20. During my absence Mr. Grinnell has kindly undertaken to watch the interests of the organization in New York, and I will, as having lived twelve years on the soil of America, appeal to enterprising and wealthy citizens of New York and other places in the United States to support Mr. Grinnell, Lieut. Schwatka, U. S. A., and myself in a speedy gathering in of the funds necessary for the equipment of the expedition; so that the *Grinnell*, the name determined upon for our vessel, may sail from the harbor of New York for Smith's Sound by next June.

SURGEON Henry Stuart, U. S. N., lately attached to the U. S. steamer *Squalara*, Asiatic Station, arrived in New York Dec. 20.

LIEUT. ALURED LARKE.

In a letter to us a brother officer of the late Lieut. Alured Larke, 10th U. S. Inf., whose death, military services, etc., we recounted last week, writes in feeling terms of the deceased. He says: "He but recently returned from a trip to Europe, where he had been to visit his aged mother and for the purpose of improving his health, which had not been good for some time. It was not thought anything serious was the matter, however, until the evening of December 11, when he was taken with an acute attack of pneumonia, which terminated in his death in a little over two days. His funeral took place at Fort Porter, at 2 p. m. on Friday, Dec. 16, Rev. Dr. Ingersoll, of the Episcopal Church, officiating, the remains being interred at Forest Lawn. Lieut. Larke had a host of friends in Buffalo, and the remains were followed to their last resting place by a large number of officers of the National Guard and other friends, including Major-General Wm. F. Rogers, commanding 8th Division, and staff; Brig.-Gen. John C. Graves, 14th Brigade, and staff; Cols. F. S. Wand and L. P. Richert, and the officers of the 65th and 74th regiments, officers of Linderman's Battery, the Buffalo City Guard Cadets, and other independent organizations. Among the many floral contributions was a beautiful shield with a shoulder strap in the centre, sent by Capt. W. H. Chapin, in behalf of the City Guard Cadets. The escort consisted of a platoon of Companies F and G, 10th Infantry, commanded by 1st Lieut. D. F. Stiles, 10th Inf., with the 65th regiment band. The pall-bearers were: Lieut.-Col. H. R. Mizner, 10th Inf.; Capt. Chas. Wheaton, 23d Inf.; 1st Lieut. Gregory Barrett, 10th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Wm. Paulding, 10th Inf.; Mr. J. Gerrans and Ralph Stone, of Buffalo.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1881. NATURALLY and legitimately Army nominations for appointments and promotions have no political significance, and so, as has been before intimated, until all the political candidates have been handsomely worked off and provided for, we need not look for attention to the unimportant matter of correcting the Army Register. It is reported that no discussion of Army concerns in any particular has as yet come up before the semi-weekly assembly of the White House magnates.

One step in a favorable direction has, however, been taken by the Speaker of the House in the appointment of Mr. Henderson, of Illinois, to the chairmanship of the Military Committee. Although Mr. H. has never been on the Military Committee, he is understood to be very favorably inclined to every measure that pertains to the well being and improvement of the military service. A gallant soldier in the late war, a resident of the Rock Island district, he has always taken much interest in the working of the R. I. Arsenal and other kindred improvements. It is believed that he is in favor of increasing the rank and file of the Army up to the standard recommended by the Secretary of War and General-in-chief, and is also in favor of the proposed measure of restoring the fuel allowance to officers. Gen. McCook, another friend of the Army, who it was expected would have the chairmanship, has the second place on the committee. Mr. Pettibone, of Tenn., has introduced a bill during the week working towards the modification of the present law respecting retirements, providing that "generals and staff officers shall be retired after 45 years' service, and officers of the line at the age of 60, and other disabled officers, as now, to be brought before a board of officers of high rank, whose findings shall determine their status on the retired list."

Your attention has, no doubt, been called to the special St. Paul despatch, in reference to the petitions and letters sent to Congress, declaring compulsory retirement at 62 beneficial to the interests of the service, and stating the great interest manifested by the officers of General Terry's command on the subject. While the interest here may be just as great, outward manifestations have not been so apparent, nor do I think that the opinions of officers here are so unanimous as to the desirability of the change. Some other measure should be coupled with this 62-year idea, or it will work no better than it has done in the Navy. Vacancies will be anticipated long before they become a reality, and contentions and intrigues for the place of the dislodged veteran will flourish as they never have heretofore in the conservative Army ranks. Make the next officer on the list sure of his promotion, or pass some such like measure in connection with the one urged so vehemently by those officers referred to, and then it may have a more general support.

Assistant Paymaster General McClure's case has also come up for argument before the Court of Claims, and as he is second upon the list in his department, it may be that the retirement of his successor, will be deferred until the Court's decision in McClure's case is promulgated.

The case of retained longevities or percentages represented by Captain R. W. Tyler, has been advanced upon the calendar, so that it will be argued early in January. Without this advancement, and taking the ordinary course in its present place, it could not otherwise have been reached, perhaps for two years.

Bills for individual relief and restoration to the rolls of the Army from disaffected ex-officers increase in number. Whether special action or a general bill on the subject will displace of the whole subject, is still a mere matter of conjecture. Many of those now introduced have frequently been before Congress, noticeably the case of Lieut. Schunberger. Every Secretary of War since his was dropped in 1845, it is said, has had his papers before them, and it was understood that one of the last acts of Secretary McCrary was to recommend the Lieutenant's re-instatement.

REPORT ON THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

SENATORS Morrill and Pendleton and Representatives Cook, Scales, and Williams, Congressional Board of Visitors to the Military Academy, have presented their report to Congress, Dec. 13. Though they make no specific recommendations, they suggest the expediency of restoring the former term of five years and considerably augmenting the preparatory studies, and giving greater attention to "English studies." The cadets now seem to rush on the "double quick" from recitation to recitation, and only about half the time is allowed to instruction which is held to be necessary for students in other learned professions. With the term increased to five years, it is not unlikely that the number graduated would be larger than it is now, but still somewhat below what will be required to supply the annual vacancies in the Army. The number rejected at the commencement would be less, and the evil and expense of supporting 30 or 40 per cent. more in number of cadets than are able to graduate would be likely to disappear. Cadets should be relieved of charges for gaslight, for use of bath-house, and for laundry expenses in excess of cost. The Board say: "Already there has accumulated of funds and property, mainly arising from profits on supplies furnished to cadets, nearly \$50,000. This sum would be sufficient, and an appropriation of an equal amount should be made to build a memorial Hall, to preserve the names of such graduates of the Academy as have distinguished themselves or died in the public service, and also for the use of the cadets at any meetings, especially at the annual assembling of the graduating class, which seems imperatively required. It is not creditable that this conspicuous ceremony has now to be conducted in the open air, and frequently exposed, as it was the present year, to a storm of rain, too great to be endured by spectators, and destructive to the usual attractions of such anniversaries."

The neglect of architecture at West Point, the miscellaneous character of the buildings which have grown up there and their awkward location, are severely criticised, and the recommendation is made that no building be hereafter commenced or essentially repaired until the plans and the locations have been examined and approved by the Chief of Engineers. The diamond-shaped windows of the cadet barracks should be changed at once. The board unanimously recommend the following appropriations for improvements which appear to them "to have been already too long neglected:"

For changing windows of cadet barracks.....	\$2,250
For additional water closets and urinals.....	1,010
For bath-house, swimming tank, and heating apparatus to be erected near cadet barracks.....	3,500
For gymnasium building.....	3,000
For changing old hospital for officers quarters.....	2,000
For cottage for Board of Visitors.....	10,000
For a new ponton train and rebuilding boat house.....	3,500
For cavalry barracks.....	10,000
For laying a new 18-inch main water pipe from tank house to east side of academy building.....	4,500
For jackets, pads, masks, broadswords, etc., for fencing school.....	500
For apparatus and implements for gymnasium.....	750
	40,810

For enlarging and remodelling the Academy building, and making it fire proof, such sum as may be found necessary upon survey and detailed estimates.

On other subjects the congressional board say:

"No officer should be selected to discharge the very important duties of Superintendent of the Academy unless known to be pre-eminently qualified for the service as a military instructor, physically, morally, and intellectually, but no officer of sufficient rank, if thus qualified, ought to be excluded from such service merely because he had not been originally assigned to duty in a particular corps. The Academy is entitled to have as superintendent an officer who has the capacity and qualifications to render the highest service; and the whole Army is none too large from which to make a fit selection. We cannot believe that the permanent interests of the Academy would be promoted by seeming to leave a single branch of the Army solely responsible for its management, and all the remainder, therefore, formally notified that they are not required to take any lively interest in its good name. It may happen, even under the existing law, that the duties of superintendent will most frequently be assigned to an officer of the Engineer Corps, and with the choice unrestricted, if it should so happen, there will be no heart burnings and no ascription of predestined favoritism."

"There may be some incongruity in converting the limited area of the post at West Point into a geographical military department, with an officer of high rank placed in command, and yet there are some reasons in its favor. The insufficient salary of a superintendent, with no higher rank than that of a colonel, makes the station onerous, as it is well known that he must be constantly subjected to unavoidable incidental expenses, that might bankrupt any officer entirely dependent upon his pay, if less than that of high rank. The growth of the country and the national reputation of West Point, the many friends of the cadets from distant places, has made it a place of resort by men of science and culture. The superintendent here represents an institution of the Government, and cannot decently omit customary civilities, nor always avoid entertainment of distinguished visitors to the Academy, whether from our own country or from abroad. Such services are official, and it would seem to be just to any officer upon whom such services are devolved that his regular pay should be supplemented by a reasonable sum for contingencies. Until this is done, it is hardly right to impose such burdens upon an officer liable possibly to become a pauper if he should remain long at West Point, and frequent changes of the superintendent would not fail to be adverse to the prosperity of the Military Academy."

"A different and better arrangement for the selection of a Superintendent of the Military Academy would be:

"First. Permit any officer of the Army, not below the rank of captain, to be eligible to the position."

"Second. Provide a proper salary for any officer that may hereafter be assigned to such duty, and suspend all other regular pay of the officer during such service."

"Third. Confer, for the time being, an *ex-officio* rank upon the Superintendent, superior to that held by professors or other officers attached to the Academy."

"The position being one of responsibility, dignity, and honor, the compensation should be fixed and made equal to its support, and then should not be placed beyond the worthy ambition of officers in all branches of the Army."

"It hardly appears to be sound policy, by any rule of law or usage, to elevate one branch of military education above all others, by an exclusive annual allotment of the five most distinguished graduates to a single branch of the service, especially if that branch happens to be the one ordinarily less exposed to the hardships of duties in the field. Any distribution of the star graduates as a reward for their high standing at examination ought not to be so made as to decorate less than the whole Army, if experience proves it to be invariably a permanent decoration—which may, perhaps, admit of some question. One branch needs accomplished officers as much as another, on the field of battle and in command, and the ambition of cadets ought not to be directed to any specialty, but when unusual proficiency and genius have been made manifest in a particular direction that might perhaps serve to point out the line wherein the cadet would be likely to render greatest service to the country and to earn most personal distinction."

"It is true that the final examination of cadets may show considerable differences in their accomplishments, but were the same class to be re-examined years afterward, it is possible that some relative positions might be reversed. If any bid adieu to scientific work upon the day of graduation, they are sure to be distanced in the long march of life by those who regularly maintain studious habits. Proficiency in text books is not the sole test of natural ability, nor of all the elements required for a model military officer. It is not to be doubted that officers can be found to-day in every other branch of the Army the equals in discreet executive ability, as well as in all scientific and soldierly acquirements, to those in the corps whose reputation stands so deservedly high, and which has long been recruited from the foremost graduates of the Military Academy."

"It might be a better practice to place cadets, as soon as commissioned, on temporary duty, in order to give them early practical experience in field service. A couple of years in such service would develop more of the character and special fitness of such young officers, and then they could be much more appropriately permanently assigned to their regiments."

"If the five star graduates must be assigned to some corps at once, and it should be thought advisable to give them some choice, we suggest that the first name on the list be allowed to make his own selection of the corps to which he may wish to be assigned, and then each one of the remainder, in their order, to have the privilege of making his selection of some other corps or branch of the military service not previously selected by any one of such graduates."

"The casualties arising in the Pay and Commissary Departments of the Army create vacancies that appear too eagerly sought after by those who have been educated at the expense of the Government to carry swords and to face the enemy on the field of battle. Except in the case of those partially disabled by wounds received in active service, or having other physical disabilities, it may be well to exclude those educated at West Point from all such appointments, as they have had neither training nor experience likely to fit them for such duties, while it would not be difficult to find in civil life many men worthy of trust and thoroughly qualified to enter at once upon such duties. Our policy has been to rely upon the Militia for National defence, but in case of war skilled officers are often needed for command, and, therefore, all officers who have been specially fitted for duty in all branches of military service should stand ready to respond to any demand of our country."

CONDITION OF THE FORTIFICATIONS.

ACCOMPANYING the letter of the Secretary of War dated December 6, which appears in the JOURNAL of December 10, was a report upon the condition of our fortifications by the "Board of Engineers for Fortifications and for River and Harbor Improvement," Generals Tower, Newton and Abbot. This report is dated November 30, 1881. They give a brief exhibit of the history of our fortifications and the progressive changes in them and say: "This system of fortifications, initiated when steam vessels were first introduced into the navies of maritime powers, as developed from that time up to the year 1860 in the United States was beyond cavil the best in the world, and would have proved itself an efficient defence for our sea coast, but for the great advance in naval warfare, commenced about that date, by giving iron protection to ships and arming them with rifled guns of 9, 10, and 12-inch calibre, throwing elongated projectiles of 250, 400 and 600 pounds weight. Even against this earlier class of iron-clads, had naval progress stopped here, our forts could have made an effective resistance by mounting in their casemates 9, 10, and 12-inch rifles. To effect that end some modifications, especially in the embrasures in the way of iron shields, would have been required. All barbette batteries without great cost per gun could have been changed to admit 12-inch rifles."

The plans of defence adopted have been but partially executed for the want of appropriations, as the report shows, and the board say:

Nearly all of our most valuable sea coast centres of commerce, wealth, manufacturing interests, and Navy-yards have

but feeble defences to secure them from a determined attack by sea. And in this connection it may be well to remark that there are no suitable guns to arm those battery emplacements that have actually been prepared, excepting a small number of smooth-bore 15-inch Rodman's and converted 8 inch rifles."

The system of torpedo defence which has been developed and established by the engineer officer in command at Wilt's Point, with abundant material on hand, and with the aid of a sufficient number of trained experts, could be applied with great success in the channels of approach to harbors, provided suitable arrangements in our existing forts for their service were prepared beforehand; and farther, that a sufficient number of effective guns on shore were mounted to prevent the enemy from destroying them. The arrangements above alluded to in the way of secure casemated electrical operating rooms and of masonry underground galleries to carry the cables below low water will require much time for their construction, and should therefore be commenced without delay."

Referring to the condition of our sea coast defences, as set forth in the report following, we would remark that the batteries designed by the Board of Engineers were intended to be armed with the 25-ton 12-inch rifle. Within a very short period great progress has been made both in guns and projectiles. The English 12-inch gun has been increased in weight up to 43 tons, and with a charge of 285 pounds of powder will throw a projectile of improved form and metal weighing 800 pounds with very great velocity. Though the penetration of this projectile into iron has not yet been determined by trial, it is computed by the established formula that it will pass through a shield of iron 24 inches thick at close range. Of course it is very desirable and a necessity that our barbette batteries should be armed with this or a similar 12-inch gun. Those batteries that have been arrested in their construction by the failure of appropriations therefor, may be adapted to receive this later model of gun where necessary, the 10-inch improved rifle being used in those emplacements now ready. It should be noticed that this advance in the 12-inch gun favors vastly the shore battery as against the ship. In addition to the guns above noticed 80 and 100-ton guns, using charges of 400 and 500 pounds of powder and projectiles weighing, respectively, 1,700 and 2,000 pounds, have been successfully constructed, and have been mounted in turreted ships of war. England has also sent, or is about to send, four of these largest guns to its forts in the Mediterranean at Malta and Gibraltar. Though ships mounting such guns cannot be numerous, they will doubtless form a part of the future naval power of maritime nations; and shore defences must be planned with a view to meet their attack."

The question for the shore defence is, however, rather the armor of the ship than its armament. Whatever may be the former, the shore gun must be sufficiently powerful to throw a projectile that will pierce it with certainty at a distance of a mile, and seriously injure it at double that distance. The projectile of the 12 inch gun will not pass through the water line armor, 24 inches thick and strongly backed with teak, of the casemate of the English *Inflexible*, at that distance. In that view it seems probable that the shore battery will require a few 100-ton guns, especially for the defence of cities so important as New York, Philadelphia, and Boston, and that involves the question of iron revolving turrets on shore for their reception and manoeuvring. The existence at any point of a few turrets so armed would probably, in connection with a full development of 12 inch rifles in barbette, aided by several torpedo lines, make an attack improbable. The masonry forts now existing are by no means useless. On the contrary, they are very necessary and valuable adjuncts to our harbor defences. They are keeps to the position, furnish quarters for the garrison that will be required to man the batteries, will cover magazines and storehouses, and furnish casemates for electrical operating rooms, and for repelling with artillery fire naval operations designed to destroy the torpedo lines."

Torpedo lines thus operated are now so effective that no fleet would attempt to ignore their existence and run past the land batteries, trusting to speed as a protection against being hit. Their first operation must be to open a passage by countermining, grapping, or other methods which would be attempted probably under cover of the night or fog by boats or small vessels, either without armor or lightly armored. Such work would be too dangerous to justify the use of the larger and more unwieldy ships of war. To meet this preliminary attack the channel must be swept by a heavy fire of grape shot, case shot and shells, for which large rifled guns are not suited, partly because they must be too few in number to maintain the needful rapidity of fire, and partly because their projectiles are not adapted to such work. Moreover, where possible, they would be placed on bluffs, while this service would require guns near the water level to secure the maximum effect. For this duty our existing casemated forts are well suited. Armed even with the 10 inch and 8 inch smooth bore Rodman guns now in store, and a few small rifles for which the old casemates require no modification, their fire would be both effective and rapid. With enough heavy 12 inch 80 ton and 100 ton rifled guns in exterior batteries to keep the great armored ships at a distance, these masonry works have sufficient strength to deal with the smaller assailants operating upon the mines. Indeed, if they were not in existence, one of the pressing necessities of the day would be the construction of some form of battery for small guns to serve this essential object."

A few only of these forts in positions of minor importance, not available by the largest class naval ships, will do good service as against fleets that can be arrayed against them."

The question of arming some of our casemated forts as they stand and of modifying others to receive large guns, has been under consideration by the Board of Engineers for Fortifications since its organization. Though such modifications may be applied in part to a very few works for which plans have been devised, it is thought that in general it would be better economy to use all available means in pushing forward, at least for some years, the defence by exterior batteries and perhaps the construction of iron revolving turrets at two or three of our most important harbors."

If rifled guns were on hand suitable for use in our best casemated works, it would be advisable to mount them there. But in view of the large cost of producing a short 8 inch rifle by conversion from a 10 inch smooth bore, we are of opinion that expenditures should be directed to providing the more effective 10 and 12 inch rifles needed for our barbette batteries."

After describing the condition of our several fortifications, in detail, the Board sum up their conclusions saying:

It must be apparent from the foregoing brief sketch of the fortifications of the Atlantic, Gulf, and Pacific coasts, and the Lake frontier of the United States, that the defences designed for their protection in their present unfinished condition are altogether insufficient for the security of our important harbors, the centres of commerce, manufactures, and wealth; of many minor harbors, which nevertheless have large interests at stake; of roadsteads useful as a re

frage of our commercial and naval marine, and of our Navy-yards.

It has been fully set forth that the masonry forts devised and in many instances finished in accordance with a system of defence acknowledged to be the best of its period, though still very useful in many ways, are quite unsuited to cope with the ironclad fleets as now constituted with their improved armaments; that the forts are deficient in strength of scarp walls to give security to guns mounted in their casemates wherever the depth of water is great enough to permit the largest class war ships to approach within battering distance, and that the casemates themselves are not sufficiently capacious to admit guns of the large calibre required to keep such fleets at a distance. The efforts of the Board of Engineers and the Chief of the Corps during the past ten years to meet, at least in part, by a readily applied system of barbettes and mortar batteries and submarine mines, the immediate necessity for increased means of defence for our harbors has been explained, and the cause of delay (the want of appropriations) assigned therefor. The necessity for completing those batteries to receive the most powerful 10 and 12 inch rifled cannon of the present day, and for making all necessary arrangements in the way of casemated electric operating rooms in the forts, and masonry arched galleries for connecting them with the submarine cables below the low-water line, and for trained experts to lay down torpedoes and attend to their service, has been set forth.

By reason of the more recent and wonderful progress made in the calibre of guns and projectiles and the increase of powder charges by which great velocities of flight and largely increased penetration into iron shields has been attained, and also the remarkable development in the way of armor protection to war vessels—doubled at least within the past ten years—this Board has felt called upon to set forth the probable necessity for the use of iron revolving turrets as an essential aid in the defence of the more important harbors of the United States. Thick enough to be impervious to the largest gun afloat—the 100-ton gun susceptible of being manoeuvred by steam power—they should be armed with the same powerful gun, the projectiles of which will pierce the sides of any ship yet constructed, and fatally injure its turrets at a distance of 2 miles at least. The existence of such turrets, aided by earthen barbettes and mortar batteries as devised, and multiplied lines of torpedoes, would render the attack of our most valuable harbors improbable. Only one turret for land defence of above description that we are aware of has been commenced, and that at Dover, England. So well aware is that nation of the necessity for large guns in shore defences that it is about sending two 80-ton and two 100-ton rifled cannon to Malta and Gibraltar, points that cannot compare in importance with New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and New Orleans.

As to arming our casemated works as they are, or modifying them to receive larger guns than they can now admit, this Board would say that the great cost of providing 8 and 9 inch rifled guns for the best class of these forts would scarcely be justified in view of their very general exposure to attack by the heaviest class of ironclads, and also pressing need for a larger rifled gun for exterior batteries finished, or now under construction. The Board of Engineers has considered the question of modifying a small number of our best casemated works to admit large guns suitable to the defence of their positions; but it seems probable that appropriations can be more judiciously applied to constructing turrets where needed than to the modification of these forts. At any rate, the casemated works must be armed with a large number of 8 and 10 inch smooth bores, as is fully set forth in the preceding report, to protect the torpedo lines of defence, quite as important as the fort itself.

In reviewing our coast defences the Board do not find that any of the works constructed on the Atlantic coast should be dismantled and abandoned as useless. The construction of some of the minor works, it is true may be delayed, preference being given to the protection of more important harbors.

GULF COAST.

Key West, on the Gulf of Mexico, should be secured, however difficult the problem, if only to prevent its being seized by an enemy with whom we may be at war. The necessity for this will be the greater if the harbor at Tortugas should be left in its present condition.

The Dry Tortugas, 60 miles distant from Key West, consisting of several sand reefs, inclosing a grand anchorage, was designed by the earliest board of Navy and Engineer officers to be strongly fortified, in order to secure the harbor beyond peradventure as a great naval depot and refuge for our war and merchant marine. In view of the very large expenditures needed to effect that purpose at the present day, it is a question whether or not the original scheme should be carried out. The decision of this question demands careful consideration. There is no necessity for hasty action.

Ship Island Fort cannot effect the purpose for which it was built, viz., to cover the harbor of refuge under the lee of the island, and afford protection to the commerce of Mississippi Sound, for the reason that it cannot resist the attack of an ironclad fleet, which can readily approach it through the deep waters of the Gulf. The object to be gained, viz., to secure a harbor of refuge behind the island, is insufficient to justify the cost of making this position impregnable.

Battery Bienvenue, Tower Dupre, and Fort Livingston, at Barataria Bay, are not now necessary for the security of New Orleans against land attack. This city now has a large population, and is easy of access from the neighboring populous States, from which it could derive all the assistance needed in war, if threatened. The above works, however, may be found useful as lookout stations, and should not, therefore, be entirely abandoned and sold. Though it would not at this time be thought advisable to build a fort on Barataria Bay to secure its waters as a harbor of refuge for small vessels of seven feet draught engaged in the commerce of the coast, Fort Livingston will nevertheless be useful for that purpose, and should, therefore, be kept in order and so armed with rifled guns as to be efficient.

LAKE FRONTIER.

There can be no doubt that Fort Montgomery, at Rouse's Point, and Fort Wayne, near Detroit, should be retained, for reasons set forth in the preceding report.

Fort Porter, at Buffalo, a simple barbettes battery, formerly protected by a masonry keep, now in ruins, is of no utility for the defence of Buffalo, either against attack from Lake Erie or by land. The provision at this place for the accommodation of a garrison will probably cause the retention of the site as a military station.

Fort Niagara, at the mouth of the Niagara River, should be retained, as it may be of use in war involving Canada in the way of holding the waters of the river for the use of our shipping. It ought to be kept in order, and on the approach of a war be so strengthened and armed as to be available for purpose.

The case of Fort Ontario involves considerable doubt as to the best disposition to be made of it. While the Board are not yet prepared to recommend abandonment, the

small resources which its position affords for offence or defence will justify leaving this fort in its present state until the lapse of time shall have more clearly determined the question of its utility.

THE MARINE CORPS.

REPORT OF THE SENATE NAVAL COMMITTEE.

In the Senate, Mr. McPherson, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, submitted the following:

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (S. No. 12) to establish and equalize the grades and regulate appointments and promotions in the Marine Corps, having examined the same, report as follows: That the provisions of this bill are the same as those contained in Senate bill 1933, which received favorable consideration and recommendation by the committee during the last session of Congress.

This bill, as is indicated by its title, contemplates the equalization of the several grades of officers of the Marine Corps and a more definite regulation of the methods of their appointment and promotion, both line and staff, than now exists. The object of the proposed legislation is to increase the efficiency of this important branch of the Naval service; first, by placing it more nearly upon a footing with military organizations of similar strength and constitution in this and other countries; and, secondly, by encouraging the officers to that increased diligence in professional accomplishment which is certain to result from their suitable recognition by Congress. It appears that this corps has by comparison always presented a remarkably small proportion of officers to enlisted men, and in consequence of the unequal distribution of its officers in the various grades, they have suffered from long delay in the matter of advancement.

The committee have reviewed the history of the Marine Corps from its establishment to the present time, and find that it has at all times acquitted itself with such conspicuous gallantry and fidelity to the country as eminently entitles it to the most favorable consideration of Congress. The records show that it has participated with the Navy in all its engagements ashore and afloat with credit; that it has never failed to fulfill the expectation of the country or the purposes of its organization; and that it has proved to be an efficient and valuable branch of the Navy.

The reports of the different secretaries of the Navy commend it with uniform warmth; officers of the Army under whom battalions of marines have served have invariably complimented them upon their discipline and efficiency, and the most distinguished and experienced officers of the Navy are unanimously in favor of measures calculated to maintain the usefulness and promote its efficiency.

The committee find gratifying assurances of merit, and abundant reason for legislative action which should be both just and liberal.

The Marine Corps, as organized under the provisions of the act of July 25, 1861 (section 1596, Revised Statutes), had an aggregate maximum strength of 3,167 officers and men under the provisions of this section and the act of June 6, 1874. The active list of line officers embraced seven grades as follows: One colonel commandant, one colonel, two lieutenant colonels, four majors, twenty captains, thirty first lieutenants, and thirty second lieutenants, or eighty-eight line officers. The number of officers in the grade of 2d lieutenant has been reduced to fourteen by the act making appropriations for the Naval service, approved June 30, 1876, which suspended appointments to fill vacancies in that grade until the number of commissioned officers in the corps should be reduced to seventy-five. At present there are but seventy-two line officers of all grades, which number is entirely inadequate to supply the necessary officers required for duty at sea and at the shore stations.

The first and second sections of this bill are not designed to make any change in the aggregate, nor to increase the whole number of officers in the corps beyond that established by the act of July 25, 1861, but to equalize the grade so as to meet the actual needs of the service and provide distribution of officers in each of the several grades, as follows: One brigadier general commandant, three colonels, three lieutenant colonels, six majors, twenty-five captains, twenty-five first lieutenants, and twenty-five second lieutenants, being a total of eighty-eight, which is the number of line officers provided for by that act.

The Marine Corps being a military body, it is deemed important and necessary to its efficiency as such, as well as eminently just, that its officers should be distributed in the various grades proportionately to the number of its enlisted men.

Under the present organization, there are but seven field officers of the line, while there are ten posts, or shore stations, of the Marine Corps, and the number of enlisted men assigned to duty at each make such posts appropriate commands for full field officers; in addition, a field officer is required for duty as superintendent of recruiting and another for duty on the Board of Inspection. Many of the officers now performing those duties are the juniors in rank by one or two grades of those exercising functions of similar responsibility in the Army and Navy. The proposed equalization of grades will furnish an officer of proper rank for such duties and in a measure correct the disparity in the proportion of field officers to the enlisted men, which will then be far below that now allowed to the same number of enlisted men in the infantry of the Army; it will also promote five captains, four of whom have served between seventeen and eighteen years in that grade, as well as ten first lieutenants, who have been about eighteen years in the service.

It is found on comparison that the whole number of officers allowed by section 1596, Revised Statutes, to the Marine Corps is proportionately very much smaller than that authorized for the same number of enlisted men in the Army or Navy.

Prior to the recent war the highest grade in the Navy was that of captain, and the rank of colonel, which is relatively the same, was given to the commandant of the Marine Corps as an appropriate rank at that time. Since then four higher grades have been established in the Navy, while in the Marine Corps its commandant holds the same rank (colonel), the rank of brigadier-general, which was authorized by the act of March 2, 1867, having been abolished by the act of June 6, 1874. The same reasons which existed in 1867 for the creation of the rank of brigadier-general in the Marine Corps exist to-day. The corps forms an appropriate command for an officer of that rank. The heads of the different corps of the Army have that rank, the chiefs of the bureaus in the Navy Department have the rank of commodore (relative rank of brigadier-general), and as an act of justice to the Marine Corps its chief should have the rank of brigadier-general, as commensurate with his command, and which rank is enjoyed by officers of the Army and Navy having similar responsibilities and commands.

The staff of the Marine Corps consists of five officers, selected and appointed from the line of the Corps—three with the rank of major and two with that of captain. The Quartermaster's Department combines the duties of provisioning, arming, equipping, clothing, and transporting the Corps; and the duties devolving upon the Adjutant and the Inspec-

tor and Paymaster are of equal importance and responsibility. The rank of these officers remains as fixed by the act of March 2, 1847, and as they are precluded from further advancement in that respect by existing law, it is eminently proper that a provision such as is proposed in the third section should be made. At present two of the three officers of the staff of the rank of major have been in the Service forty-two and thirty-four years respectively, and have held that rank twenty years and upwards, and recently an officer who stood at the head of the grade of assistant quartermaster for a period of twenty-four years with the rank of captain was retired in that grade and rank after forty-two years' service, having reached the age of sixty-two.

The promotion of the senior assistant quartermaster to fill a vacancy in the office of quartermaster is simply applying to the Marine Corps the principle and is the same which now governs promotions in all the staff departments of the Army and Navy.

The recognition of the necessary designation of the senior marine officer of a fleet or squadron as "fleet marine officer," proposed in section 4, corresponds with a similar designation under existing law of the senior officers of the different corps of the Navy, while serving as such in a fleet or squadron, and intimately associated as they are in actual service, it is but just that the Marine Corps be accorded similar recognition by law. The senior marine officer of a fleet is by regulation merely designated "fleet marine officer;" his duties, however, in his department correspond in importance with those of other "fleet officers" in other departments, but there is no law giving him the rank to which his length of service and the importance and duties of his position entitle him.

Surgeons, paymasters, and engineers of the fleet are the senior officers of their respective corps in the fleet to which they are assigned, and, while acting in that capacity, they are allowed by law a higher rate of pay than those of their grades in the Navy. The necessities of "fleet marine officers" are as great as those of the other corps designated, and the officers who would, under the proposed legislation, be assigned to the positions have been on an average as long in the service as such other fleet officers.

The provision that appointments to fill vacancies in the grade of 2d lieutenant shall be made in equal proportion from such graduates of the Military or Naval Academies as may so elect, by the promotion of non-commissioned officers of the corps and from civil life, it is believed, will bring to the service a higher standard of professional qualifications, and be productive of emulation and great incentive to meritorious conduct among the non-commissioned officers.

Under the provisions of the act of June 6, 1874, a vacancy in the office of commandant may be filled by the selection and appointment of any officer of the corps, without regard to the rank, age, or experience of such officer. It is therefore deemed necessary that a provision, such as is proposed in section 6, be made to secure to that most important office of the Marine Corps the appointment of an officer who, from an experience of twenty years and upwards in command of troops, is familiar with the requirements and necessities of the service. It is equally important that vacancies in the offices of adjutant and inspector and paymaster of the corps should be filled by the appointment of officers qualified therefor by an experience of at least twenty years' service.

The other provisions of the bill regulating promotions in the corps, according to existing law affecting the Navy, is merely giving authority for an obvious omission in former laws upon this subject. The committee therefore commend the bill to the favorable consideration of the Senate, and earnestly recommend its passage.

(For the Army and Navy Journal.)

SIC TRANSIT.

A SAN FRANCISCO paper says: "The men of the newly-arrived 1st U. S. Art., who have appeared on our streets compare very favorably with those of the departed 4th. They are larger men, of better physique, and are but 'set up.' They are also neater in their dress and more soldierly in their demeanor. It is to be hoped that this contrast does not tell in favor of the East as against California as a place in which to train men in habits of self-respect. The men of the 1st certainly have the style of soldiers who have had a shorter role on earth than the men of the 4th had." Oh, fields, fields 'Frisco!—ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Dec. 17.

'Tis over thus in childhood's hour,
We see our fondest hopes decay;
Lo! Frisco on the Fourth turns sour,
Forgets the friends of yesterday.

The facile reportorial pen
No more for us indites the puff;
If e'er it cites us it is when
It recollects our garments rough.

Barely but one revolving moon
Has circled since our parting cup,
When Frisco twigs our pantaloons
And reproaches our "setting up."

Can an omitted overcoat—
Such testimonial to her clime—
Become so soon a thing to quote
As evidence of martial crime?

Shall an "unbuttoned blouse" offend
The recollections of nine years?
Shall there remain no single trace
That once 'twere her "only dears?"

Because our men were not so "large,"
Nor so "tight reined" as are the First,
Are they to hold it as a charge
Against them, and for it be curst?

Oh! Scarfaced Charley! Captain Jack!
Nex Perce Joseph! Bannack brave!
Such conduct sure should bring you back
In holy horror from the grave.

Oh! Frisco, is it really so,
Are we so soon forgotten quite?
Do we less in your optics grow
Because our breeches were less tight?

By weary tramp, through summer's heat!
By winter's cold, and autumn's rain!
By soaking clothes, and blistered feet!
By many a mile o'er cactus plain!

By sage brush and by alkali!
By rattlesnake and centipede!
By those who were about to die!
By those who really did, indeed!

We ask you that for ninety days—
No more, no less, we're not aspersed,
And then, God willing, we'll give way
Unto the overcoated First.

FORT TUMBULL, December 20.

THE ARMY.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR, *President and Commander-in-Chief*
Robert T. Lincoln, *Secretary of War.*

W. T. Sherman, *General of the Army of the United States*
Washington, D. C. Brig.-Gen. R. C. Drum, *Adj.-General.*
Henry T. Crosby, *Chief Clerk, War Department.*

Brig.-General D. B. Sackett, *Inspector-General.*
Brig.-General David G. Swain, *Judge-Advocate-General.*
Brig.-General Montgomery C. Meigs, *Quartermaster-General.*
Brigadier-General R. Macfie, *Commissary Gen. of Subsistence.*
Brigadier-General Jos. K. Barnes, *Surgeon-General.*
Brigadier-General Nathan W. Brown, *Paymaster-General.*
Brigadier-General Horatio G. Wright, *Chief of Engineers.*
Brigadier-General Stephen V. Benét, *Chief of Ordnance.*
Brigadier-General W. B. Hazen, *Chief Signal Officer.*

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieut.-General P. H. Sheridan: Headquarters, Chicago, Ill.
Colonel Robert Williams, A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.—Bvt. Maj.-Gen.* John Pope:
Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. Maj. E. R. Platt, A. A. G.
Troops.—4th Cavalry; 9th Cavalry; C. L. 3d Cavalry; D. E. F. M., 10th Cavalry; 13th Inf., 14th, 15th, 20th Inf.; 23d and 24th Infantry; F. 2d Artillery.

District of New Mexico.—Col. R. S. Mackenzie, 4th Cavalry;
Hdqs. Santa Fe, N. M. Capt. John S. Loun, 9th Cav., A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.—Bvt. Maj.-Gen.* G. C. Augur:
Hdqs. San Antonio, Tex. Lieut.-Col. Thos. M. Vincent, A. A. G.
Troops.—8th and 10th Cavalry; 1st, 16th, 19th, and 22d Infantr.
DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.—Bvt. Maj.-Gen.* A. H. Terry: Hdqs.
Fort Snelling, Minn. Maj. Samuel Breck, A. Adj.-Gen.

Troops.—2d and 7th Cavalry; 3d, 5th, 7th, 11th, 17th, 18th, and 25th Infantry.
District of Montana.—Colonel T. H. Ruger, 15th Infantry
commanding District: Headquarters, Helena, Mont. 2d Lieut.
George L. Turner, 18th Infantry, A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.—Bvt. Maj.-Gen.* Geo. Crook:
Hdqs. Omaha, Neb. Major J. P. Martin, A. A. G.

Troops.—3d and 5th Cavalry; 4th, 6th, and 9th Infantry.
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-Gen.* W. S. Hancock: Hdqs. Governor's Island, N. Y. H. Lt. Col. W. D. Whipple, A. G.

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.—Major-General* W. S. Hancock:
Headquarters, Governor's Island, N. Y. H. Lieut.-Col. W. D. Whipple, A. A. G.
Troops.—4th Artillery; A. B. C. D. H. I. K. L. and M., 2d Artillery;
A. 3d Artillery; G. 1st Artillery; 5th Artillery; 10th Inf.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.—Bvt. Brig.-Gen.* H. J. Hunt, Col.
5th Artillery: Hdqs. Newport Bks. Ky. Major Joseph H. Taylor, A. A. G.

Troops.—3d Artillery, excepting A; Batt. E, G, 2d Art.
MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC
AND DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Major-General Irvin McDowell: Headquarters, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal. Colonel John C. Kelson, A. A. G.

Troops.—C. G. and 1st Cavalry; 1st Artillery, excepting G; B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. and K. 8th Infantry.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.—Brigadier-General Nelson A. Miles: Hdqs. Vancouver Bks. Wash. T. Major O. D. Greene, A. A. G.

Troops.—A. B. D. E. F. H. K. L. and M., 1st Cavalry; G and M, 4th Artillery; 2d and 21st Infantry.
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.—Brig.-Gen.* O. B. Wilcox,
Colonel 12th Infantry: Hdqs. Whipple Bks. Prescott, Arizona.

Major S. N. Benjamin, A. A. G. Mail, via Lathrop, Cal.
Troops.—6th Cavalry; A, 8th Infantry; and 12th Infantry.

MILITARY DIVISION OF WEST POINT.

Bvt. Maj.-Gen.* O. O. Howard: Hdqs. West Point, N. Y.
Bvt. Maj.-Gen.* O. O. Howard, Superintendent, U. S. M. A.
1st Lieut. J. A. Sladen, 14th Inf., A. D. C., A. A. G.

Troops.—Corps of Cadets; E. Bat. of Engineers; detachments of cavalry and artillery.
* On duty according to Brevet of Major General.
* On duty according to Brevet of Brigadier-General.

GENERAL MOUNTED RECRUITING SERVICE.

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MO.
Superintendent, Bvt. Brig.-Gen. Thos. H. Neill, Col. 8th Cavalry.

CAVALRY DEPOT—JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MO.
Thos. H. Neill, Col. 8th Cavalry, Bvt. Brig.-Gen., Commanding.
John Green, Major 1st Cavalry, Bvt. Col., Executive Officer.

1st Lt. R. A. Williams, 8th Cav., Depot Adjutant.
Capt. Geo. F. Foote, 8th Cav., Dep. Q. M. and Commissary.
Surgeon Charles E. Goddard, U. S. A., Depot Surgeon.

ON DUTY AT DEPOT.
L. S. Tesson, Asst. Surgeon U. S. A.
W. C. Rawolle, Capt. 2d Cav.
C. H. Rockwell, 1st Lt. 5th Cav., comdg. Co. A of Instruction.

J. W. Pullman, 1st Lt. 8th Cav., comdg. Co. D of Instruction.
H. S. Bishop, 1st Lieut. 5th Cav., comdg. Co. B of Instruction.
C. G. Ayres, 2d Lieut. 10th Cav., comdg. Co. C of Instruction.

RENDERINGS AND OFFICERS IN CHARGE.
New York City, 174 Hudson st., Capt. E. J. Spaulding, 2d Cav.
N. Y. Branch, 10 Battery Place, Capt. Francis Moore, 9th Cav.
Jersey City Branch Office.

Milwaukee, Wis., 125 2d st., Capt. H. W. Wessells, Jr., 3d Cav.
Baltimore, Md., 57 1/2 S. Sharp st., Capt. T. M. McDougall, 7th Cav.
Chicago, Ill., 11 S. Clark st., Capt. H. H. Crews, 4th Cav.

Boston, Mass., 89 Court st., 1st Lieut. O. B. Boyd, 8th Cav.
Cincinnati, O., 219 W. 5th st., 1st Lt. Wm. Davis, Jr., 10th Cav.
St. Louis, Mo., 321 Pine st., 1st Lt. P. S. Bonus, 1st Cav.

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL RECRUITING SERVICE,
Army Building, Houston Street, Corner of Greene, New York City.
LIST OF OFFICERS ON GENERAL RECRUITING SERVICE.
Col. William H. Wood, 11th Infantry, Superintendent.
Major Henry C. Wood, Asst. Adj.-Gen.

DEPOTS.
David's Island, N. Y. H.
Lieut.-Col. H. M. Black, 13th Inf. Lt. Col. W. P. Carlin, 17th Inf.

Surg. Geo. F. Jaquett, U. S. A. Surg. Wm. M. Nelson, U. S. A.
Capt. Theo. Schwan, 11th Inf. Capt. W. G. Wedemeyer, 16th Inf.
Capt. J. H. Belcher, A. Q. M. Capt. E. B. Atwood, A. Q. M.

Asst. Surg. L. M. Mans, U. S. A., U. S. A. (temporary).
1st Lt. J. T. Kirkman, 10th Inf. (temporary).
1st Lt. H. H. Ketchum, 23d Inf. 1st Lt. Levi F. Burnett, 7th Inf.

1st Lt. Geo. G. Leece, 19th Inf. 1st Lt. John Murphy, 14th Inf.
1st Lt. Henry Seton, 4th Inf. 1st Lt. John Murphy, 14th Inf.
1st Lt. F. H. E. Ebsen, 21st Inf. 1st Lt. Matt. Markland, 1st Inf.

A. A. Surg. John H. Lott, U. S. A. 2d Lt. Arthur Williams, 3d Inf. (temporary).
A. A. Surg. T. H. Pleasants, U. S. A. A. A. Surg. A. F. Steigers, U. S. A.

RENDERINGS.

Albany, N. Y., 547 Broadway.
Troy, N. Y., 332 River st. Brch. Capt. C. L. Davis, 10th Infantry.
Baltimore, Md., 215 W. Pratt st. Capt. J. A. Snyder, 3d Infantry.

Boston, Mass., 19 Portland st. Capt. H. C. Cook, 2d Inf.
Buffalo, N. Y., 41 Franklin st. Capt. A. S. Burt, 9th Inf.
Chicago, Ill., 9 South Clark st. Capt. A. S. Burt, 9th Inf.

G. O. 90, H. Q. A., Dec. 15, 1881.
Publishes a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States that the record kept by a person employed in the Signal Service of the United States, whose public duty it is to record truly the facts therein stated, is competent evidence of such facts, and instructs observers of the Signal Service that the records which they keep are a part of the records of the War Department, and that by law they are in the custody of the Secretary of War; that they are not open to unauthorized inspection, nor are observers to produce them in the courts, upon subpoenas, without authority of the War Department.

The work of meteorological observation must be made at fixed hours, and the reports, to be of value, must make up a continuous series; therefore, observers will make a respectful return to any subpoena demanding the production of their station records, that such records belong to the War Department and cannot be produced without the authority of the Secretary of War, and a list of the data required by the subpoena will be obtained and forwarded to this office, that authenticated copies of the records may be immediately supplied, as provided by the statute. Observers, when subpoenaed, will, in making the return, accompany it by a copy of this order.

G. O. 91, H. Q. A., Dec. 16, 1881.

By direction of the Secretary of War the following order is published to the Army:

The frequent failure in proceedings of General Court-martial to show, in cases of men tried for desertion, the intention of the accused, by which alone it can be determined whether the man is guilty of the crime of desertion (not of absence without leave merely), deprives the reviewing authority, and those to whom application is made to extend clemency, of a proper and intelligent understanding of the case.

The attention of officers composing General Court-martial is therefore called to the necessity for more careful and searching inquiry into the cases of enlisted men brought before them for trial under charges of desertion. That crime may be briefly defined as an unauthorized absence accompanied by an intent of not returning. Both elements must be proved, but the second is the gist of the offence; and it follows that, in order to determine the question of intent, all the circumstances connected with the absence of the prisoner must be considered together. The entry on the descriptive list of a soldier that he has deserted is not proof of the crime, but merely evidence that he has been charged with its commission. Men enticed into dissipation, finding on recovering from its effects that they have been absent long enough to be reported deserters, prolong their absence through fear of being brought to trial for desertion, although they had from the first no intention to desert. Their offence deserves and should receive proper punishment, but it is not desertion. It should appear of record that the plea of "guilty" to a charge of desertion is understood by the prisoner as an acknowledgment of his intention to desert, and not merely of unauthorized absence; and it should not be accepted when the prisoner makes a statement at variance with his plea.

Inquiry into applications for clemency shows that some judge-advocates of Courts-martial have a habit of recommending enlisted men charged with desertion to plead guilty and submit their case to the merciful consideration of the court, when a careful examination of all the facts would have developed, at least, a fair line of defence against that charge. This practice is reprehensible in itself and indicates a failure on the part of an officer resorting to it to appreciate the true functions of his office, and department and subordinate commanders should not only discourage it, but in every proper way secure protection to the prisoner from such ill-advised counsel.

A copy of this order will be furnished by the appointing power to every General Court-martial convened for the trial of enlisted men or before which they may be brought.

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adj.-Gen.

G. O. 92, H. Q. A., Dec. 17, 1881.

By direction of the Secretary of War the following ruling of the Post Office Department, in regard to the use of penalty envelopes by officers of the United States, is published for the information of all concerned:

The twenty-ninth section of the act of March 3, 1879, (Postal Laws and Regulations, section 251), extending to all officers of the United States Government the provisions of the sections numbered 249 and 250, Postal Laws and Regulations, for the transmission of official mail matter, requires all officers, who are not departmental in their character, to use envelopes which bear the appropriate endorsements containing the name of the office from which the same are transmitted, with a statement of the penalty for their misuse, and the use of the envelopes must be absolutely restricted to official mail matter transmitted between officers of the United States or between any such officer and either of the Executive Departments or officers of the Government.

The signature of the officer and his official title is not a compliance with the law; the name of the office from which they are transmitted must also be given on the envelope.

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adj.-Gen.

G. O. 93, H. Q. A., Dec. 19, 1881.

Publishes by direction of the Secretary of War forms (we omit the forms), Nos. 43 and 55, Medical Department, which are substituted for those published in the Regulations (pp. 1099-1102, 1129, 1130).

By command of Gen. Sherman:

R. C. DRUM, Adj.-Gen.

G. O. 13, DEPT. OF THE SOUTH, Dec. 14, 1881.

Gives the annual record of target practice of troops serving in this Dept. for the year ending Sept. 30, 1881, and the names of the marksmen and their qualifying scores.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.—The journey performed by Major O. D. Greene to Portland, Ore., and return, on Nov. 26, on public business, are confirmed (S. O. 189, Dec. 2, D. C.).

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.—Leave of absence for fifteen days is granted Col. Nelson H. Davis, Insp.-Gen., Chicago, Ill. (S. O. 131, Dec. 17, M. D. M.).

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—Capt. Thomas B. Hunt, A. Q. M., will proceed from Fort Union to Santa Fe, N. M., and return, upon public business (S. O. 183, Dec. 10, D. N. M.).

Major James G. C. Lee, Q. M., is relieved from the operation of so much of par. 9, S. O. 260, Nov. 17, 1881, from W. D., as relates to him, and will repair at once to St. Louis, Mo., and relieve Major Edward D. Baker, Q. M., of his duties at that place; both officers will then report by letter

to the Lieut.-Gen., Comdg. the Mil. Div. of the Missouri (S. O. 17, W. D.).

Capt. E. B. Hubbard, A. Q. M., was ordered Sept. 17 to take station at the end of the track of the Atlantic and Pacific R. R., or the point on that road most convenient for shipping freight to Fort Apache, A. T. The journeys performed by Capt. Hubbard from Billings, A. T., to Holbrook, A. T., and return (Oct. 30 to Nov. 1, 1881), and from Billings, A. T., to Albuquerque, N. M. (Nov. 6 to 9, 1881), on public business, are confirmed (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

Major J. G. C. Lee, Q. M., upon his arrival at Buffalo, N. Y., will stand relieved from the duty assigned him by those orders, and will proceed at once to St. Louis, Mo., and relieve Major E. D. Baker, Q. M., from duty at that point, reporting by letter to the Comdg. Gen. Mil. Div. of the Missouri (S. O. 227, Dec. 19, D. E.).

Leave of absence for five days is granted Major T. J. Eckerson, Q. M., Boston, Mass. (S. O. 225, Dec. 16, D. E.).

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.—Major Michael P. Small, Chief Com'y of Sub. of the Dept. of Texas, will proceed to Fort McIntosh and San Diego, Tex., on public business (S. O. 153, Dec. 9, D. T.).

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—A. A. Surg. W. B. Cockrell is relieved from duty at Fort Garland, Colo., and will remain on duty at the Cantonment on the Uncompahgre, Colo., where he now is (S. O. 259, Dec. 14, D. M.).

The leave of absence granted A. A. Surg. Frederick Lloyd, Camp Porter, Mont. T., is extended one month (S. O. 131, Dec. 17, M. D. M.).

Capt. G. H. Torney, Judge-Advocate G. C.-M. Fort Lyon, Colo., Dec. 19 (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Asst. Surg. J. H. Lott, now in Santa Fe, N. M., on detached service, will return to his station, David's Island, N. Y. H. (S. O. 157, Dec. 9, D. N. M.).

The telegraphic instructions from Hdqs. Dept. of Missouri, Dec. 8, directing A. A. Surg. C. C. Goddard to proceed from Fort Riley, Kan., to Fort Elliott, Tex., for temporary duty during the absence of Asst. Surg. D. M. Appel, are confirmed (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

The journey, on public business, from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to Fort Riley, Kan., made by A. A. Surg. C. C. Goddard, when returning to his station from detached service, is approved (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

Capt. L. Y. Loring, member G. C.-M. at Fort Dodge, Kan., Dec. 20 (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

The leave of absence granted Major Richard H. Alexander, Surg., is extended one month (S. O. 17, W. D.).

Asst. Surg. Valery Havard, now en route from Fort Davis, Tex., to San Antonio, Tex., is assigned to temporary duty at Hdqs. Dept. of Texas, and will report to the Medical Director of the Dept., for instructions (S. O. 154, Dec. 12, D. T.).

Asst. Surg. W. F. Carter, member G. C.-M. at Fort Concho, Tex., Dec. 12 (S. O. 153, Dec. 9, D. T.).

Asst. Surg. T. J. C. Maddox is relieved from duty in the Dept. of the East, and will proceed to comply with par. 5, S. O. 283, c. s., Hdqs. of Army, in his case (S. O. 227, Dec. 19, D. E.).

So much of par. 10, S. O. 203, c. s., Hdqs. Mil. Div. of the Pacific, as directs A. A. Surg. William C. Burns to report to the Medical Director of the Division of the Pacific for annulment of contract is revoked. He will proceed to Fort Bowie, A. T., for assignment to duty in the Dept. of Arizona (S. O. 212, Dec. 7, M. D. P.).

A board of medical officers, to consist of Surg. E. P. Vollum, Asst. Surg. Frank Meacham, and Asst. Surg. H. O. Perley, is appointed to meet at Hdqs. Mil. Div. of the Atlantic Dec. 22, 1881, to examine 1st Lieut. Barnet Wager, 2d Art., as to the nature and extent of his present disability, physical and mental (S. O. 80, Dec. 19, M. D. A.).

A. A. Surg. Edward Everts will report to the C. O. of Alcatraz Island for duty at that post, temporarily relieving Asst. Surg. Henry I. Raymond, who will report to the C. O. of the Presidio of San Francisco for duty at that post (S. O. 214, Dec. 9, M. D. P.).

PAY DEPARTMENT.—Leave of absence for seven days, to terminate on Dec. 31, is granted Major H. G. Thomas, Paymaster, Pueblo, Colo. (S. O. 259, Dec. 14, D. M.).

Leave of absence for one month, to apply for an extension of one month, is granted Major H. H. Reese, St. Paul, Minn., on account of sickness (S. O. 226, Dec. 13, D. D.).

Major W. H. Comegys, Paymaster, is relieved from duty in the Dept. of Arizona, and will proceed to comply with par. 2, S. O. 270, c. s., Hdqs. of the Army (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

Major J. B. M. Potter, Paymaster, will proceed to West Point, N. Y., on public business (S. O. 228, Dec. 20, D. E.).

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.—The journeys performed by 1st Lieut. Thomas W. Symons, Chief Engineer Officer, from Vancouver, W. T., to Portland, Ore., and return, on Oct. 21 and 26, Nov. 1, 15, 21, 22, and 29, on public business, are confirmed (S. O. 189, Dec. 2, D. C.).

The leave of absence granted 2d Lieut. Theodore A. Bingham is extended five days (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. John G. D. Knight is extended six months (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

Leave of absence for two months and twenty days is granted 1st Lieut. William T. Rossell (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—The C. O. Fort A. Lincoln Ord. Depot will send George Bolton, Corporal of Ordnance, to Hdqs. Dept. of Dakota, for duty in the office of the Chief Ord. Officer (S. O. 227, Dec. 14, D. D.).

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. Charles C. Morrison is extended ten days (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

NATIONAL CEMETERIES.—Supt. William H. Taylor, of the Fort Donelson, Tenn., National Cemetery, is discharged the service, to take effect upon his being relieved from duty in charge of that cemetery.

SIGNAL SERVICE.—2d Lieut. L. E. Seabree was ordered Nov. 25 to proceed to Palestine, Tex., and St. Louis, Mo., and return, on public business (S. O. 154, Dec. 12, D. T.).

THE LINE.

CHANGES OF STATIONS OF TROOPS.

Reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending December 17, 1881:

Troop E, 4th Cav., to Fort Craig, N. M.
Troop H, 4th Cav., to Fort Cummings, N. M.
Troops B and E, 9th Cav., to Fort Hays, Kan.

2ND CAVALRY, Col. John P. Hatch.

Col. J. P. Hatch will proceed to Fort Ouster, M. T., and assume command of that post and his regiment (S. O. 237, Dec. 14, D. D.).

3RD CAVALRY, Colonel A. G. Brackett.

1st Lieut. Frederick Schwalke, A. D. C., will proceed from Vancouver Bks. W. T., to Fort Stevens, Ore., and return, on public business (S. O. 189, Dec. 2, D. C.).

4TH CAVALRY, Col. R. S. Mackenzie.

Major E. B. Beaumont will at once proceed to Fort Wingate, N. M., for duty. 1st Lieut. A. M. Patch, R. Q. M., will at once relieve 1st Lieut. G. A. Cornish, 15th Inf., as A. A. Q. M. at Santa Fe, N. M. (S. O. 156, Dec. 7, D. N. M.).

The telegraphic instructions of Dec. 3, for 1st Lieut. W. E. Wilder to report in person at Hdqrs. Dist. of New Mexico, are confirmed (S. O. 156, Dec. 7, D. N. M.).

Major H. E. Noyes, president; Capt. C. M. Callahan, members, and 2d Lieut. J. B. Richards, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Craig, N. M., Dec. 26 (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

1st Lieut. C. A. P. Hatfield, having relinquished the unexpired portion of his leave of absence, will, on Dec. 13, conduct from Fort Marcy, via San Marcial, to Fort Craig, N. M., a detachment of recruits for Troops E and M, and turn them over to the C. O. for distribution to their troops. Lieut. Hatfield will then report to the C. O. for duty with his troop, E (S. O. 159, Dec. 12, D. N. M.).

The Supt. Mounted Recruiting Service will cause fifty recruits to be forwarded to Santa Fe, N. M., for the 4th Cav. (S. O., Dec. 16, W. D.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, 1st Lieut. W. E. Wilder, Fort Bayard, N. M. (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

One month, Capt. F. L. Shoemaker, Fort Stanton, N. M. (S. O. 259, Dec. 14, D. M.).

One month, to apply for extension of two months, 1st Lieut. Alexander Rodgers, Fort Wingate, N. M. (S. O. 261, Dec. 16, D. M.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. Edward M. Heyl, two months on Surg. certificate (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

5TH CAVALRY, Colonel W. Merritt.

1st Lieut. C. H. Rockwell is assigned to command a detachment of recruits for the 3d Cav., ordered to leave Jefferson Bks, Mo., Dec. 18, for Fort Russell, Wy. T. (S. O. 140, Dec. 14, Rec. Depot, Jefferson Bks, Mo.).

6TH CAVALRY, Col. Eugene A. Carr.

1st Lieut. L. A. Craig, having conducted a detachment of recruits for the 4th Cav. to Santa Fe, N. M., will return to his proper station at Jefferson Bks (S. O. 157, Dec. 9, D. N. M.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to take effect upon the completion of his present duties at Camp on Walnut Creek, A. T., 1st Lieut. George L. Scott, to apply for extension of three months (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

7TH CAVALRY, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, 2d Lieut. J. D. Mann, Fort Meade, D. T. (S. O. 225, Dec. 12, D. D.).

Fourteen days, 2d Lieut. H. G. Squiers, Fort Monroe, Va., commencing on Dec. 22 (S. O. 226, Dec. 17, D. E.).

8TH CAVALRY, Colonel Thos. H. Neill.

1st Lieut. R. A. Williams is assigned to command a detachment of recruits for the 8th Cav., ordered to leave Jefferson Bks, Mo., Dec. 17, for San Antonio, Tex. (S. O. 140, Dec. 14, Rec. Depot, Jefferson Bks, Mo.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. John H. Coster, one month (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

9TH CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.

Capt. H. Carroll, president, and 1st Lieut. J. A. Olmstead, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Reno, I. T., Dec. 19 (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Capt. Frank T. Bennett will proceed to Fort Wingate, N. M., on public business, and upon completion of the duty proceed to Fort Reno, Ind. T., for duty with his company, I (S. O. 158, Dec. 10, D. N. M.).

2d Lieut. C. A. Howard will proceed from Fort Cummings to Santa Fe, N. M., for the purpose of conducting recruits to their proper stations (S. O. 158, Dec. 10, D. N. M.).

2d Lieut. C. A. Howard will, on Dec. 13, conduct from Fort Marcy, via Porter, to Fort Cummings, N. M., a detachment of recruits to be assigned to Troops F and H, 4th Cav.; Co. A and D, 13th Inf., and Troops C and G, 4th Cav. (S. O. 159, Dec. 12, D. N. M.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, 2d Lieut. C. A. Howard, Fort Hays, Kas. (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.

Major Anson Mills, president; Capt. S. T. Norvell, A. S. B. Keyes, and J. M. Kelley, members, G. C.-M. at Fort Concho, Tex., Dec. 12 (S. O. 153, Dec. 9, D. T.).

1st Lieut. J. T. Morrison, Adj., is announced as recruiting officer at Fort Concho, Tex., vice Capt. R. G. Smither (late Adjutant), relieved, on account of promotion (S. O. 153, Dec. 9, D. T.).

2d Lieut. M. F. Eggleston was ordered, Dec. 12, to proceed to Big Springs, Tex., and report to Capt. W. R. Livermore, Chief Engineer Officer of the Dept. of Texas (S. O. 154, Dec. 12, D. T.).

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel F. T. Dent.

Major Royal T. Frank, president; Capt. James M. Ingalls, 1st Lieut. Henry M. Andrews, Thomas C. Patterson, 2d Lieut. William C. Rafferty, members, and 1st Lieut. H. W. Hubbell, Jr., J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Alcatraz Island, Cal., Dec. 10 (S. O. 214, Dec. 9, M. D. P.).

1st Lieut. John W. Dillenback, R. Q. M., is appointed Post Q. M. at the Presidio of San Francisco (S. O. 215, Dec. 10, M. D. P.).

1st Lieut. John W. Dillenback, R. Q. M., is appointed Recruiting Officer at the Presidio of San Francisco (S. O. 216, Dec. 12, M. D. P.).

On the recommendation of his regimental commander, 2d Lieut. Charles J. Bailey is transferred from Bat. E to L (S. O., Dec. 19, W. D.).

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. David Price, Jr., seven days (S. O. 230, Dec. 23, D. E.).

2ND ARTILLERY, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.

1st Lieut. B. Wager is to be examined by a Board of Medical Officers in regard to his disability, physical and mental. Lieut. Wager, who is on sick leave at Rhinebeck, N. Y., will, if able to travel, report in person before the Board on Dec. 22. [For detail of medical officers see Med. Dept.] (S. O. 80, Dec. 19, M. D. A.).

Capt. A. C. M. Pennington, upon receiving notice from Capt. C. W. Foster, A. Q. M., that certain horses authorized to be purchased for Light Bat. A, 2d Art., are ready for inspection, will proceed to Baltimore, Md., for that purpose (S. O. 238, Dec. 20, D. E.).

Leave of Absence.—From Dec. 23, 1881, to Jan. 3, 1882, 1st Lieut. F. C. Grugan, Fort Monroe, Va. (S. O. 227, Dec. 19, D. E.).

4TH ARTILLERY, Colonel John M. Brannan.

Leave of Absence.—Two months, 1st Lieut. Walter Howe,

Madison Bks, N. Y., to take effect upon the return from leave of 2d Lieut. F. S. Strong (S. O. 79, Dec. 16, M. D. A.).

Twenty days, 1st Lieut. G. L. Anderson, Fort Adams, R. I. (S. O. 226, Dec. 17, D. E.).

5TH ARTILLERY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.

Par. 1, S. O. 121, Dept. of South, is amended to read 1st Lieut. Reilly, on arrival of the batteries 3d Art. designated as the garrison of Fort Barranca, will then proceed to the station of his battery in Dept. of East for duty (S. O. 140, Dec. 16, D. S.).

Major Richard Arnold, Act. Asst. Insp.-Gen., will proceed to Buffalo, N. Y., Detroit, Mich., and Boston, Mass., and inspect accounts of disbursing officers stationed in those cities (S. O. 225, Dec. 16, D. E.).

2d Lieut. S. A. Allen will proceed at once to Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., and join his battery (S. O. 229, Dec. 22, D. E.).

1ST INFANTRY, Colonel William R. Shafter.

Leave of Absence.—Ten days, to take effect during Dec., Capt. Kinzie Bates, Fort Davis, Tex. (S. O. 154, Dec. 12, D. T.).

2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.

2d Lieut. William C. Muhlenberg was ordered, Nov. 29, to report at Hdqrs. Dept. of Columbia, en route to Fort Leavenworth, Kas. (S. O. 187, Nov. 29, D. C.).

5TH INFANTRY, Colonel Pinkney Lugenbeel.

Leave of Absence.—Fifteen days, 1st Lieut. Edmund Rice, Adj., Fort Keogh, M. T. (S. O. 227, Dec. 14, D. D.).

6TH INFANTRY, Colonel A. McD. McCook.

Capt. Jeremiah P. Schindler, president; Capt. Thomas Britton, 1st Lieut. William H. H. Crowell, David L. Craft, 2d Lieut. Bernard A. Byrne, John J. Shaw, Reuben B. Turner, members, and 1st Lieut. Thomas G. Townsend, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Douglas, U. T., Jan. 2 (S. O. 128, Dec. 15, D. P.).

2d Lieut. Arthur L. Wagner is relieved from duty at the Louisiana State University and Mechanical and Agricultural College, Baton Rouge, La., and detailed as professor of military science and tactics at the East Florida Seminary, Gainesville, Fla. (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, Capt. Stephen Baker (S. O. 127, Dec. 12, D. P.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. Stephen Baker, one month (S. O. 133, Dec. 20, M. D. M.).

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.

1st Lieut. Daniel Robinson is detailed on General Recruiting Service for the Dept. of Dakota at Cantonment Bad Lands, D. T. (S. O. 227, Dec. 14, D. D.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. William I. Reed, Fort Snelling, Minn., one month (S. O. 131, Dec. 17, M. D. M.).

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.

Co. B (Porter's), C (Corliss's), I (Smith's), and K (Worth's), are relieved from further duty in the Dept. of Arizona, and will proceed to the Dept. of California—Co. B, I, and K to Benicia Bks, Cal., and Co. C to Angel Island, Cal. (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

1st Lieut. C. M. Bailey, R. Q. M., is relieved from duty as A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S., with battalion recently engaged in repairing the road between Camp Thomas and Fort Apache, A. T., and from duty in the Dept. of Arizona, and will proceed to his proper station, Angel Island, Cal. (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

1st Lieut. John O'Connell is relieved from duty with Co. F, to date from Nov. 21, to enable him to avail himself of the leave of absence granted him by S. O. 124, D. A. (S. O. 213, Dec. 8, M. D. P.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. J. McE. Hyde, one month, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Div. of Pacific (S. O. 216, Dec. 12, M. D. P.).

10TH INFANTRY, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. R. C. Van Vliet, five days (S. O. 229, Dec. 22, D. E.).

11TH INFANTRY, Colonel William H. Wood.

The Supt. General Recruiting Service will cause thirty recruits to be forwarded to Fort Snelling, Minn., for the 11th Inf. (S. O., Dec. 20, W. D.).

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.

Co. O (Viven's) is relieved from further duty in the field, and will join its proper station, Camp Thomas, A. T. (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

Par. 2, S. O. 91, D. A., and so much of par. 3, of the same order, as relieves Co. G (Norvell's) from duty at Fort McDowell, A. T., and directs it to proceed to and take station at Fort Grant, A. T., are revoked. So much of par. 3, S. O. 79, D. A., as directs Co. E (Brown's) to take station at Fort Yuma, Cal., is amended so as to direct the said company to proceed to and take station at Fort Grant, A. T. (S. O. 141, Dec. 9, D. A.).

The Supt. General Recruiting Service will cause forty recruits to be forwarded to Willcox Station, Ariz. T., for the 12th Inf. (S. O., Dec. 16, W. D.).

1st Lieut. George R. Smith, now at Jamestown, New York, will repair to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adj.-Gen. of the Army (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

13TH INFANTRY, Colonel Luther P. Bradley.

Capt. F. E. DeCourcy, member, and 1st Lieut. M. F. Jamar, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Craig, N. M., Dec. 26 (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

1st Lieut. James Fornance, Adj., will conduct to Fort Wingate, N. M., twenty-eight recruits assigned to companies of the regiment serving at that post, and two recruits for Co. A, 4th Cav. (S. O. 158, Dec. 10, D. N. M.).

The order of Dec. 8, detailing Lieut. Jesse O. Chance for course of instruction at the School of Application at Fort Leavenworth, is revoked, and 2d Lieut. V. E. Stolbrand is detailed for the course instead (S. O., Dec. 22, W. D.).

Leave of Absence.—Twenty days, 1st Lieut. W. W. Tyler, Fort Wingate, N. M. (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. William L. Buck, Fort Wingate, N. M., one month (S. O. 132, Dec. 19, M. D. M.).

14TH INFANTRY, Col. Lewis C. Hunt.

The C. O. Cantonment on the Uncompahgre, Colo., will grant a furlough for two months to Sergt. Richard F. Bowers, Co. D (S. O. 237, Dec. 12, D. M.).

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel George P. Buell.

Capt. W. T. Hartz, president; 1st Lieut. S. R. Stafford, 2d Lieut. D. D. Mitchell, C. E. Garst, and W. F. Blauvelt,

members, G. C.-M. at Fort Lyon, Colo., Dec. 19 (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Upon being relieved as A. A. Q. M. at Santa Fe, N. M., Lieut. G. A. Cornish will report to the C. O. Fort Marcy for duty with his company (S. O. 156, Dec. 7, D. N. M.).

Par. 1, S. O. 231, from Dept. of Mo., directing that Private James Forste, Co. K, be sent to Washington, D. C., for admission to the Government Asylum for the Insane, is revoked (S. O. 259, Dec. 15, D. M.).

1st Lieut. S. R. Stafford will proceed from Fort Lyon, Colo., to Fort Wingate, N. M., on public business (S. O. 260, Dec. 15, D. M.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, Capt. H. B. Brinkerhoff, Fort Lewis, Colo. (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

One month, to apply for extension of three months, Capt. J. W. Bean, Fort Lewis, Colo. (S. O. 261, Dec. 16, D. M.).

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel G. Pennypacker.

Capt. T. E. Rose, member, and 1st Lieut. G. H. Palmer, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Concho, Tex., Dec. 12 (S. O. 153, Dec. 9, D. T.).

The Supt. General Recruiting Service will cause forty recruits to be forwarded to Abilene, Tex., for the 16th Inf. (S. O., Dec. 20, W. D.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, Capt. Merritt Barber, Fort McKavett, Tex. (S. O. 153, Dec. 9, D. T.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. Merritt Barber, Fort McKavett, Tex., one month (S. O. 133, Dec. 20, M. D. M.).

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Chas. C. Gilbert.

Par. 2, S. O. 181, Oct. 3, 1881, D. D., is amended to read as follows: Capt. C. H. Greene will proceed to Fort Pembina, D. T., on public business; on completion of which he will return to his station at Camp Porter, M. T. (S. O. 226, Dec. 13, D. D.).

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.

1st Lieut. J. G. Leefe, having conducted a detachment of fifty recruits for the 19th Inf. to Santa Fe, N. M., will return to his station at David's Island (S. O. 157, Dec. 9, D. N. M.).

1st Lieut. George H. Cook, Adj., will join his station, Fort Brown, Tex. (S. O. 180, Dec. 16, M. D. M.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. Emerson H. Lisicum, twenty days (S. O., Dec. 17, W. D.).

20TH INFANTRY, Colonel Elwell S. Otis.

Major Caleb B. Layton, president; Capt. Charles O. Bradley, Rodney M. Taylor, 1st Lieut. Palmer Tilton, Herbert S. Foster, 2d Lieut. F. Dent Sharp, members, and 2d Lieut. J. S. Rogers, J.-A. of G. C.-M. at Fort Dodge, Kas., Dec. 20 (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

The C. O. Fort Hays, Kas., will grant a furlough for three months to Private Peter Fanning, Co. G, to take effect Dec. 15, 1881 (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

So much of par. 1, S. O. 252, Nov. 8, 1881, W. D., as relates to 1st Lieut. John A. Manley, is revoked (S. O., Dec. 17, W. D.).

2d Lieut. Edwin H. Webber is detailed for instruction at the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and will report in person to the C. O. of the school Dec. 20, 1881 (S. O., Dec. 17, W. D.).

2d Lieut. James H. Waters will return to Fort Dodge, Kas. (S. O. 261, Dec. 16, D. M.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, 2d Lieut. J. S. Rogers, Fort Dodge, Kas. (S. O. 259, Dec. 14, D. M.).

31ST INFANTRY, Colonel H. A. Morrow.

2d Lieut. Charles H. Bonesteel is detailed as recorder of the Board of Officers convened at Hdqrs. Dept. of Columbia, by virtue of par. 1, S. O. 184, D. C. (S. O. 157, Nov. 29, D. O.).

1st Lieut. F. H. E. Elstein, now on detached service in Santa Fe, N. M., will return to his station, David's Island, N. Y. H. (S. O. 157, Dec. 9, D. N. M.).

1st Lieut. P. H. E. Elstein is assigned to command a detachment of recruits ordered to leave David's Island, N. Y. H., Dec. 24, to be assigned to Batteries B, K, and M, 5th Art., at Fort Hamilton and Schuyler, N. Y. H. (Order 245, Dec. 21, Rec. Depot, David's Island, N. Y. H.).

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Granville O. Haller.

1st Lieut. J. H. Pardee and 2d Lieut. E. P. Pundleton, members, G. C.-M. at Fort Reno, I. T., Dec. 19 (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Capt. James Henton, J. T. Haskell, and 1st Lieut. C. D. Cowles, members, G. C.-M. at Fort Craig, N. M., Dec. 26 (S. O. 258, Dec. 13, D. M.).

So much of par. 1, S. O. 252, Nov. 8, 1881, W. D., as relates to 2d Lieut. William A. Nichols, is revoked (S. O., Dec. 19, W. D.).

2d Lieut. Charles H. Heyl is detailed for instruction at the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and will report to the C. O. of the school as soon as practicable (S. O., Dec. 19, W. D.).

34TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.

Capt. A. C. Markley, 1st Lieut. A. A. Augur, and 2d Lieut. H. W. Hovey, members, G. C.-M. at Fort Reno, Ind. T., Dec. 19 (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

The Comdg. Gen. Dept. of Missouri will transfer one of the school teachers belonging to the 24th Inf., now at Fort Reno, to a company of the 9th Cav., stationed at Fort Sill, Ind. T., for duty as school teacher (S. O. 131, Dec. 17, M. D. M.).

Leave Extended.—Major Richard F. O'Beirne, three months (S. O., Dec. 21, W. D.).

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, December 17, 1881.

1st Lieutenant Alured Larke, 10th Infantry—Died December 14, 1881, at Fort Porter, Buffalo, New York.

Field Order Revoked.—Par. 1, F. O. 11, D. A., designating peace lines, is revoked, to take effect Dec. 15 (S. O. 140, Dec. 7, D. A.).

General Courts-Martial.—At Fort Reno, I. T., Dec. 19. Detail: Three officers of the 24th Inf.; two of the 23d Inf., and two of the 9th Cav.

At Fort Lyon, Colo., Dec. 19. Detail: Five officers of the 15th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Fort Dodge, Kas., Dec. 20. Detail: Seven officers of the 20th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Fort Craig, N. M., Dec. 26. Detail: Three officers of the 23d Inf.; three of the 4th Cav., and two of the 13th Inf.

At Fort Concho, Tex., Dec. 12. Detail: Four officers of the 10th Cav.; two of the 16th Inf., and one of the Med. Dept.

At Fort Douglas, U. T., Jan. 2. Detail: Eight officers of the 6th Inf.

At Alcatraz Island, Cal., Dec. 10. Detail: Six officers of the 1st Art.

FRIDAY'S ARMY ORDERS

1st Lieut. Samuel R. Jones, 4th Art., granted leave for 4 months.
2d Lieut. Fredk. W. Foster, 5th Cav., 2 months extension of leave.
1st Lieut. John A. Payne, 19th Inf., transferred from Co. H to Co. K.
1st Lieut. Alexr. H. M. Taylor, 19th Inf., transferred from Co. K to Co. H.
1st Lieut. Walter L. Fisk, Corps of Engineers, relieved from duty under orders of Lieut.-Col. Quincy A. Gillmore, and will proceed to Galveston, Texas, for duty under Maj. Samuel M. Mansfield, Corps of Engineers.

Special Inspectors Appointed.—Col. J. H. Potter, 24th Inf., at Fort Supply, I. T., on a quantity of corn (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Col. Cavier Grover, 1st Cav., on certain clothing, camp and garrison equipage at Fort Walla Walla, W. T. (S. O. 157, Nov. 29, D. C.).

The C. O. of Fort Cummings, N. M., on certain unserviceable public property (S. O. 259, Dec. 14, D. M.).

The C. O. of Fort Elliott, Tex., at that point, on certain subsistence stores (S. O. 260, Dec. 15, D. M.).

School of Application.—The Staff of the School of Application for Infantry and Cavalry, at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., composed as directed in G. O. 42, H. Q. A., will at once proceed to prepare and submit a code of regulations for the school. Before the final adoption of this code it will be submitted to the commanding officer of the school for such remarks as he may see fit to make, and will be transmitted by him with these remarks, through Hdqrs. Dept. of Missouri, to the Commanding General of the Army (S. O. 257, Dec. 12, D. M.).

Boards of Survey.—At the Subsistence Depot, San Francisco, Dec. 12, to determine the amount of damage to a lot of subsistence stores. Detail: Major Frank M. Coxe, Paym.; Major Charles H. Whipple, Paym.; and Capt. Gustavus A. Hull, Military Storekeeper (S. O. 215, Dec. 10, D. P.).

Military Prisoners.—So much of the unexpired portion of the sentence in the case of Private Thomas Benson, Co. G, 10th Inf., as relates to confinement at hard labor in charge of the guard, is remitted (G. C.-M. O. 100, Dec. 19, D. E.).

Paragraph 217 Laidley's Manual.—Col. T. T. S. Laidley, Ordnance Department, in reply, dated Nov. 14, 1881, to an inquiry from Capt. Leonard Hay, 9th Infantry, Fort Omaha, Neb., said that in paragraph 217 of the Manual, after the words "fourteen points," there should be inserted "in eight consecutive estimates." Capt. Hay not being satisfied with this dictum submitted the matter to the Headquarters of the Army for decision, and presented the points of the case as follows:

1st. The method of calculating of "points" made by the men on estimate of distance drills in the 3d section, par. 216, revised Laidley's Rifle Firing, whether this formula is correct, $8 \times 2 = 16$; $14 : 100 : 58$ per cent.

2d. As to the 2d and 1st sections, whether this formula is correct, $8 \times 2 = 16$; $14 : 100 : 87$ per cent.

3d. On form 30 d, under the heading of estimates of distance, is the total number of points made in a stated number of drills, or the average percentage, to be entered? If the former, should not the number of estimates also be entered corresponding to the entries of firing in the columns a and b?

4th. On form 30 d, under the heading of aiming and pointing drill, what entry should be made? Is it proper and sufficient to enter the words "yes" and "no," and progress "good," "indifferent" and "bad"? He adds: "At present, so far as I am informed, there is a variety of ways practiced by company commanders (according to the interpretation of the text by each) in sending full and complete reports of the progress of their men, to insure uniformity in all."

Gen. Sherman, in letter of Dec. 17, answered: "The formula proposed in the first question is correct, as also that proposed in the second question. Answer to the third question: The average percentage of all the estimates for the entire month as taken from the register (see par. 207, Laidley), should be entered. Answer to fourth question: It is sufficient to enter the words yes or no, thereby indicating the attention given to this part of the instruction—the record of which cannot with exactness be reduced to a system of percentage. All your queries have been noted, and will receive attention when it is deemed necessary to publish a circular explanatory of obscure points in the Manual upon Rifle Firing."

Fort Wingate, New Mexico.—The evening of Dec. 26, at this post, will be enlivened by a grand military ball to be given by Co. H, 13th Infantry, the music being furnished by the 13th Infantry band, under Leader Herman Trutner. The composition of the various committees give promise that the occasion will be a success. Mr. Chas. Maier will act as floor manager. We acknowledge receipt with thanks of an invitation to be present, but regret that distance precludes the pleasure.

Abandoning Fort Porter.—The Buffalo (N. Y.) Sunday Morning News, of Dec. 18, devotes some space to the question as to whether Fort Porter is, or is not, to be continued as a military post. It says: When Gen. Sherman was here two years ago he changed his mind three times in one day, and the last decision was that the fort should be abandoned. He has stuck to that ever since. He has consistently opposed anything looking toward a rebuilding of the post since. But there's more than one way to get an appropriation. When the barracks at Sackett's harbor were burned the Congressman from that district promised his people he would have them rebuilt. There were two companies there at the time, and the people thought they might as well have what advantage there was in the way of expenditure of public money as not. He got an appropriation of \$25,000 tacked on the Army bill, though it was opposed by the War Department and fought it through. But the bill was vetoed by President Hayes on account of the *posse comitatus* clause put on by the Democratic Congress to prevent the use of troops at Southern elections. He tried to get it by a special bill and that failed, owing to opposition from the War Department. He put it on the Civil Appropriation bill and got it through, and the barracks were rebuilt, and there are four companies instead of two there now. To remove the post at Buffalo to Niagara, as has been proposed, would take the troops from the point of their greatest usefulness and cause delays in case of a railroad riot, or a repetition of the Fenian raids of 1867. The post has many advantages and if either Mr. Scoville or Mr. Crowley should take the matter in hand this winter and go to the War Department instead of the General of the Armies for support it can be put through. The

present administration is in full accord with the last, I understand, in this matter. The plans for the improvements contemplate a complete rebuilding of the quarters. Instead of the long parallels of barracks, a stone or brick quadrangle will be put up, located so as to throw some 500 feet more into the park. Plans for the disposition of the land so acquired by the Park Commissioners have already been considered by them. One of the features will be a band pavilion, in which it is proposed to have summer-night concerts for the benefit of the general public, for it is proposed to make the new barracks to accommodate four companies and bring the two companies of the 10th, now at Mackinac, to Buffalo, which will give the Buffalo post the band belonging to the regiment. A good deal of quiet planning has been done, but it is believed the new Council will favor the project and give it all the aid possible, so far as the city part of the work is concerned, and an appropriation will doubtless be placed before Congress at an early day.

Division of the Pacific.—The San Francisco Report, of Dec. 10, says: Capt. Harris, 1st U. S. Cavalry, has returned to the Presidio from Arizona.... Lieut. Clermont L. Best, 1st U. S. Artillery, has arrived from the East and joined his battery.... Lieut. and Mrs. Haskell, 12th U. S. Infantry, left the Grand on Thursday, on their return to Tucson.... Capt. Carr, 1st U. S. Cavalry, has returned from the seat of war in Arizona on his way to Fort Halleck.... Lieut. J. F. Parks, 21st U. S. Infantry, arrived this morning in charge of military prisoners from Vancouver.... Gen. Rufus Saxton, Chief Quartermaster of the Division of the Pacific, was in Washington on Thanksgiving day, much improved in health.... Lieut. J. W. Dillenback, Regimental Quartermaster, 1st U. S. Artillery, arrived on Tuesday from Newport, R. I., and at once reported for duty.... Capt. F. D. Baldwin, 5th U. S. Infantry, Judge-Advocate on the staff of Gen. Miles, arrived yesterday on his way North.

Department of Dakota.—The Pioneer Press, of Dec. 17, says: Capt. J. N. Wheelan, 2d Cavalry, arrived in this city yesterday, en route from Fort Custer for the East on leave of absence. He is stopping at the Metropolitan.... Capt. J. M. J. Sanno, 7th Inf., arrived from New York yesterday, and was tendered a hearty greeting by his friends and brother officers at Fort Snelling. He has been absent from his regiment on recruiting and special duty at Governor's Island for about three years, and will resume command of his company at Fort Snelling.... 2d Lieut. P. M. B. Travis, 11th Inf., registered yesterday at the Merchant's Hotel. He is en route to join his company at Fort Sully, D. T.... Maj. Lewis Merrill, 7th Cav., arrived in the city yesterday in company with his wife and daughter, and took quarters at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Non-Commissioned Officers on Daily Duty.—The Secretary of War decides "that details of non-commissioned officers on daily duty should not be made except in cases of emergency, and that the decision of Dec. 1 prohibiting the detail of non-commissioned officers on extra duty should be applied in cases of daily duty also." (Letter A. G. O., Dec. 19.)

Columbus Barracks, Ohio.—Our correspondent writes Dec. 19: "A detachment of 50 recruits and 4 artificers left this depot the 10th inst. for assignment to regiments serving in the Military Division of the Pacific; 50 recruits to the 8th Infantry, the 4 artificers to regiments serving in that Division, 1st Lieut. J. S. Kirkman, 10th Inf., in command, 1st Lieut. D. R. Burnham, 16th Inf., A. C. S. The lake in the Barrack grounds has recently been re-bottomed and soddied to the water's edge; the old wooden structure that formerly connected the island with the main land has been permanently removed with a good effect, and tends to beautify and make the lake quite picturesque. When the condition of the ice will permit skating this is quite a resort for the elite of Columbus, especially of the "gentler sex," who are always most cordially welcomed and extended the freedom of the lake by our popular and genial Adjutant, 1st Lieut. and Bvt. Capt. Levi F. Burnett, 7th Inf. The weather still continues favorable enough to admit of drills, guard mounts, etc., on the parade ground, and the usual inspections and dress parades. There were more recruits arrived at the depot during last week than any preceding week during the last two months. M.

Company Gardens.—The Secretary of War, on communication from Lieut. H. F. Kendall, 8th Cav. Post Quarter master, San Diego, Texas, enclosing voucher in favor of Troop E, 8th Cav., amounting to \$69.52, for corn-fodder, a product of the company garden, furnished the public animals at post by reason of the failure of the contractor to deliver hay, decides that "the Regulations governing purchases in the Quartermaster's Department absolutely prohibit barter with its agents by any person connected with the Government, and the Regulations must govern in this case." (Letter A. G. O., Nov. 11, 1881.)

Wedding at Fort Union, N. M.—From this post we receive the following account of the wedding referred to in the JOURNAL of last week:

There was a very beautiful military wedding at Fort Union, New Mexico, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 7, of Lieut. W. A. Nichols, son of the late Adj.-Gen. W. A. Nichols, of the Army, and Miss Alice Mal Haller, daughter of the colonel of the 23d Infantry. In the centre of the extensive quarters of the commanding officer is a spacious hall, which was beautifully decorated with flags and regimental colors, and festooned with smilax and evergreens. The bridal party entered the hall from the rear, facing the guests, the bride, on the arm of the groom, taking her place in the centre of a semi-circle formed by the groomsmen and bridesmaids, beneath an arbor of smilax, over which was suspended a large horseshoe. The bride and bridesmaids were very beautifully dressed, and, with the full-dress uniforms of the groom and his attendants, the party made quite a tableau. The bride wore a magnificent brocade satin de Lyon, with satin and lace trimmings, and prettily ornamented with white lilacs and orange and apple blossoms. Her veil of tulle was very elaborate, and made her *spirituelle* beauty more noticeable than ever. The bridesmaids were Miss Lottie Haller, sister of the bride, and Miss Nellie Kelly, daughter of the late Captain Kelly, 8th Cavalry. The former was attired in corn-colored surah, dotted organdie, and lace trimmings; and the latter in pale blue surah, trimmed with white point lace and blush roses. The groomsmen were Lieutenants Lea Feibiger and J. A. Depray, of the 23d Inf. Rev. J. A. M. La Tourrette, post chaplain, performed the wedding ceremony of the Episcopal Church, after which a sumptuous supper was served, while the regimental band of the 23d dispensed excellent music. Dancing followed the supper. Mr. and Mrs. Nichols, after remaining a few days at Fort Union, will make a tour East as far as New York.

The Nevada Trophy Contest.—Our Washington correspondent writes, Dec. 20, as follows: "In forwarding my last 'Nevada Trophy' target report I made a mistake in

stating that all the Departments except West Point had reported—at that time the Department of the Platte had not reported, and this missing one only came to hand to-day. It is as follows: Co. I, 6th Infantry, stationed at Camp on Snake River, Wyoming. Total number of men firing, 33; average aggregate strength of company for the month of May, 1881, 36; percentage of men firing to aggregate strength, 91.66-100; total score, 855; per cent., 51.7-83. The company of artillery at Plattsburg Barracks has the maximum, and the company in Arizona the minimum. So, I suppose, the Plattsburg company will receive the trophy."

Clocks for Military Posts.—The Quartermaster-General of the Army, on the question of clocks for post libraries, says: "I think that every military post should have a sufficient eight day striking clock at the guard house, and at the Adjutant's office, to serve as regulators of the whole routine of daily service, and, if there be large official business, that it may be proper to have such a clock in the Quartermaster's office as at Headquarters of Divisions and Departments, and at Depots. Beyond this officers should depend upon their own watches or private clocks in their quarters. Such clocks as are shown to be necessary for public service and regulation of the daily duty, the Quartermaster's Department ought to furnish. But it can not approve expenditures for fancy clocks. There is a disposition to expend money unnecessarily in clocks which are represented as keeping very good time."

Fort Leavenworth.—The Leavenworth Times, of Dec. 18, has a description of Fort Leavenworth, which concludes by saying: "It seems a gay thing to be an officer and be stationed at Fort Leavenworth, and at home in these fine quarters, and ride or drive to or from the city, but there is a reverse to the picture. At any moment these carefully dressed, daintily booted and gloved young gentlemen may be ordered to some desolate spot in the deserts of the frontier to pass months in a post surrounded by skulking savages, and without seeing a civilized face outside of the garrison. A transfer from Fort Leavenworth may mean death in an inglorious skirmish with Apaches in some defile in the mountains, and mutilation afterwards, as in the case of poor George Smith not long ago. Some good people grumble about the expense of the Army and military posts, but our little Army serves to keep alive the military traditions and spirit of the country, and the sight of the blue uniforms, and the flag that does not come down till sunset, and the voice of the sunset gun, all remind young people that they have a country, and that it has brave defenders."

Department of the Columbia.—The Vancouver Independent, of December 8, says: The military reservation of Boise Barracks is now fenced in, and the town is without a cemetery.... Winter has closed in upon the upper posts in this dept., and military affairs are very quiet.... Lieut. Fred. Schwatka, aide-de-camp, started on Monday for Forts Canby and Stevens.... Captain J. Q. Adams, 1st Cavalry, chief signal officer, and Lieut. O. F. Long, aide-de-camp, returned to headquarters on Tuesday from a tour of duty at Fort Townsend.... Rev. David Wills, Chaplain U. S. A., reported at headquarters for a day on his return to the coast last week, and is now back at his station in Fort Walla Walla.... On Monday Lieut. G. B. Backus, 1st Cavalry, accompanied by his wife, started for his post at Fort Klamath. No one envies them their winter trip over the mountains.... The new horse disease called "pink-eye" has made its appearance in Walla Walla. Dr. Corcoran, veterinary surgeon, 1st Cavalry, was on Dec. 2 called to treat the first case reported.... A party of 14 enlisted men from Fort Coeur d'Alene went to a dance Nov. 24, and on their return the horses ran away, wrecking the outfit, injuring all the men but two, three of them seriously.... Lieut. W. C. Muhlenberg, 2d Inf.; Lieut. E. C. Brooke, 21st Inf., and Lieut. W. C. Brown, 1st Cav., sailed on Sunday's steamer for San Francisco, en route to the military school at Fort Leavenworth.... The U. S. steamer General Wright, with Colonel Habersham on board, tied up at the Government dock on Tuesday. Col. Habersham is sounding the river, and doing other work connected with the Government surveys.

Fort Robinson, Neb.—Our correspondent writes, Dec. 9: For the past few days the weather here has been most charming, indeed. It has reminded us of the usual autumnal Indian summer, and has been enjoyed by all. The contrast between now and the same time last year is very great. By a little after the first of December of 1880 enough ice had been gathered to fill the commodious post ice-house. But this year, up to the present time, none whatever has been sawed, although during November we had some cold weather, but not cold enough, however, to make ice suitable for putting away. But, of course, such weather at this season of the year, and especially in this climate, is like many other things in this life, and like life itself—very uncertain.

Capt. Emil Adam, Lieut. W. E. Almy, and Dr. Summers have returned with their command from Pine Ridge Agency, whither they went some days ago in charge of a band of Indians. They are on their way back to Fort Sidney, their present station, where they will, no doubt, receive a hearty welcome on their arrival. Lieut. C. C. Miner, 9th Inf., has gone to Fort Laramie, W. T., for recruits that have been ordered to the post. Lieut. W. S. Wyatt, 9th Inf., Fort Robinson's courteous and obliging commissary, has been ordered to proceed to Pine Ridge, for the purpose of enumerating the Indians at that place. A "grand complimentary benefit" was given last night by Fort Robinson serenaders to one of the company, Dick Wood, of Co. M, 5th Cav. It was largely attended, and gave general satisfaction, all the pieces being performed in an able manner. The programme included the performance of several laughable farces, a comic recitation, comic and sentimental songs, a clog dance, and feats of strength. ZADOK.

At the regular meeting of Joe Hooker Post 128, G. A. R., the following officers were elected, Dec. 15, 1881: Commander, George Strippel; S. V. Commander, Chas. F. Volters; J. V. Commander, Otto Leosner; Quartermaster, Philip Asher; Chaplain, Robert Dietrich; Surgeon, Dr. C. F. W. Haase; Officer of the Day, Wm. J. Barry; Officer of the Guard, Herman Kinttel.

The Danes are about to spend 60,000,000 crowns on permanent fortifications, designed to secure the Danish capital against surprise, and to prevent a repetition of such a visit as Nelson paid it so unceremoniously at "10 o'clock by the chime of April morn."

Mr. Lawson claims for an Englishman, Mr. Longridge, the credit of inventing the "Ericsson torpedo." In 1867-8, Mr. Longridge brought the firing of guns under water before the Institute of Naval Architects at the Society of Arts, and exhibited drawings which Mr. Lawson contends prove that Ericsson's torpedo is a copy of Longridge's ship

THE NAVY.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR, President and Com'dr-in-Chief.
WILLIAM H. HUNT, Secretary of the Navy.
JOHN W. HOGG, Chief Clerk.
DAVID D. PORTER, Admiral of the Navy.
STEPHEN C. ROWAN, Vice-Admiral of the Navy and Governor of Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.
BUREAU OF ORDNANCE—Commander Montgomery Sicard, chief; (with relative rank of Commodore.)
Commander Alex. H. McCormick, assistant.
BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING—Commodore Earl English, chief; Lieut. Comdr. P. B. Lamberton, assistant.
BUREAU OF NAVIGATION—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) John G. Walker, chief.
BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS—Rear Admiral Edward T. Nichols, chief; Commander Geo. C. Remy, assistant.
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY—Surgeon-General Philip S. Wales, chief (with relative rank of Commodore); Surgeon Adrian Hudson, assistant.
BUREAU OF PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING—Paymaster-General (with relative rank of Commodore); Paymaster C. P. Thompson, assistant.
BUREAU OF STRAM ENGINEERING—Engineer-in-Chief William H. Shock, chief (with relative rank of Commodore); Chief Engineer H. W. Fitch, assistant.
BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR—Chief Naval Constructor John W. Baer, chief (with relative rank of Commodore).
Office of the JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL—Colonel William B. Remy, Marine Corps, Judge Advocate General.
SIGNAL OFFICE—Captain Philip C. Johnson, chief.
HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE—Captain J. C. P. de Kruiff, Chief Hydrographer, in charge.
NAVAL OBSERVATORY—Rear Admiral John Rodgers, supt.
NAVAL ACADEMY—Capt. Francis M. Ramsay, superintendent.

FLAG OFFICERS AFLOAT.
NORTH ATLANTIC—Rear Admiral R. H. Wyman.
SOUTH ATLANTIC—Rear Admiral Jas. H. Spotts.
EUROPEAN STATION—Rear Admiral J. W. A. Nicholson.
PACIFIC STATION—Rear Admiral Geo. B. Balch.
ASIATIC STATION—Rear Admiral J. M. B. Clitz.
TRAINING SQUADRON—Commodore S. B. Luce.

COMMANDANTS NAVY-YARDS AND STATIONS.
Commodore Clark H. Wells, Portsmouth, N. H.
Commodore George M. Ransom, Boston, Mass.
Rear Admiral George H. Cooper, New York.
Commodore Edw. Simpson, League Island, Penn.
Commodore Thomas Patterson, Washington, D. C.
Commodore Aaron K. Hughes, Norfolk, Va.
Commodore Stephen P. Quackenbush, Pensacola, Fla.
Commodore Thos. S. Phelps, Mare Island.
Commodore Wm. E. Hopkins, Naval Station, New London, Ct.
Captain J. E. Joubert, Nav. Sta., Pt. Royal, P. O. Beaufort, S. C.

COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS.
Colonel Commandant, Charles G. McCawley.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

Iron-clads are indicated by a star (*); a. s. stands for Asiatic station; e. s., European station; n. a. s., North Atlantic station; p. s., Pacific station; a. s. s., South Atlantic station; s. s., special service.

Cruisers.

ADAMS, 3d rate, 6 guns (p. s.), Commander Edgar C. Merriman. At Payta, Nov. 30. Designated by Admiral Balch to convey Hon. Chas. Adams, U. S. Minister to Bolivia, to Mollendo.

ALASKA, 3d rate, 13 guns (p. s.), Capt. George E. Belknap. Was to leave Arica, Nov. 13, for the South.

ALERT, 3d rate, (a. s.) 4 guns, Comdr. Chas. S. Cotton. Left Kobe, Nov. 14, for Nagasaki.

ALLIANCE, 3d rate, 6 guns (n. a. s.), Comdr. George H. Wadleigh. At Charlestown, Mass., repairing.

ARBUCKLE, 3d rate, 6 guns (a. s.), Comdr. H. E. Mallan. Left Nagasaki, Nov. 11, without having been docked, as the dock was engaged until the 21st, and as her detention for so long a time might have rendered it impossible for her to reach Tientsin before the closing of navigation. Repairs will have to be deferred until her return.

BROOKLYN, 3d rate, 14 guns, Capt. A. W. Weaver. Sailed from New York, Dec. 7, for Montevideo.

DESPATCH, 4th rate, 4 guns (s. s.), Comdr. W. R. Bridgman. Left Washington, Dec. 12, for Samana Bay.

ESSEX, 3d rate, 6 guns, Comdr. A. H. McCormick. At Norfolk. Preparing for a cruise in the Pacific. Will visit the Cape de Verd Islands, and probably Siberia, on the way out. Will be ready early in January to sail. Dropped down to take in powder Dec. 22.

GALENA, 3d rate, 8 guns, Commander James O'Kane. At Villefranche, France, Nov. 22. Has visited Leghorn, Messina, Smyrna, Salonic, Volo, and Palermo. Returned to Villefranche Oct. 11, after satisfactorily settling certain business on which Commander O'Kane was detailed.

Kearsarge, 3d rate, 7 guns (n. a. s.), Comdr. G. B. White. Arrived at New Orleans.

LACKAWANNA, 2d rate, 11 guns (p. s.), Capt. Henry Wilson. Arrived at Panama, Dec. 1. En route to Peru and Chili. From this vessel a correspondent writes: The *Lackawanna* arrived at Panama, Dec. 1, twenty-five days from San Francisco, the passage being made without stoppage, under sail the first thousand miles, and under steam the remainder of the distance. Fine weather was experienced, which was taken advantage of to drill the new crew. The ship is to wait the arrival of the representative of the State Department to Chili and take him South. All well.

LANCASTER, 2d rate, 10 guns (f. s. e. s.), Capt. Bancroft Gherardi. At Villefranche, Dec. 1. The vessels of the squadron will visit the eastern ports in succession, until affairs are more quiet.

MARION, 3d rate, 8 guns (n. a. s.), Comdr. Silas Terry. At Cape Town, Dec. 12. En route to Hurd's Island. All well on board.

MICHIGAN, 4th rate, 8 guns (a. s. lakes), Comdr. Albert Kautz. At Erie, Pa.

MINNESOTA, 1st rate, 40 guns, Comdr. H. L. Howison. Gunner ship. At Newport.

MOROCCAO, 3d rate, 6 guns (f. s. a. s.), Comdr. Chas. L. Huntington. At Yokohama, Nov. 22. Semi-annual inspection took place at Yokohama Nov. 19. Rear-Admiral Clitz reports that taking into consideration the class of the vessel, the inspection proved her to be in unexceptionably good condition, as regards efficiency, cleanliness, and good order, and generally such as to reflect great credit upon the commanding officer, officers and crew. Oct. 31, ship was dressed in honor of the anniversary of the birthday of the Queen of Portugal, and a national salute of 21 guns fired at noon. On the same day the *Micado* visited the *Baccharie* to call on the young English Princes. Yards were manned both on his arrival and departure, and salutes of 21 guns were fired. Nov. 1 the flying squadron went to sea. Nov. 2 the German Commander, Von Hank, in his flagship *Von Stosch*, came in. The usual courtesies and civilities were extended. Nov. 3, the anniversary of the birthday of H. T. M. the *Mikado*, dressed ship, and at noon fired a salute of 21 guns. With the exception of a few cases, not of a serious nature, the health of the officers and men on

the Asiatic Station continues excellent. No indication of any change in affairs in China and Japan.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1st rate, sails. Flagship of the Training Squadron. Coaster's Island Harbor, Newport, B. I. **NIRASO, 3d rate, (e. s.) 6 guns, Comdr. H. B. Seeley.** Having repaired at Genoa, returned to Villefranche, Nov. 5, and Dec. 1 was on her way to Alexandria—to remain in eastern waters until relieved by another vessel, or until affairs are in a more settled condition, then return to Villefranche, via Smyrna, Naples, and Leghorn.

PALOS, 4th rate, 6 howitzers (a. s.), Lieut.-Comdr. F. M. Green. At Hong Kong, Nov. 22. Lieut.-Comdr. Green reports that the measurement of longitude has been completed between Hong Kong, Canton, and Manila. The work of measurement between Hong Kong, Singapore, and Saigon was to be commenced at once.

PENACOLA, 2d rate, 23 guns (s. p. s.), Capt. W. P. McCann. Off Payta, Peru, Dec. 2. Left Callao, Nov. 22, and arrived off Lobos d'Alfueria Islands on the 25th. Exercised crew at target practice with great guns. Several vessels were observed at the anchoring loading guano, among them three Americans. Proceeded to the northward of the islands and lay off and on, and a boat was sent in to communicate. One of the American vessels having signalled for medical assistance, two medical officers were sent aboard—the vessel being the *S. H. Lyman*, of Yarmouth, Me. The mate of the *Lyman* was found to be dangerously ill from lockjaw, the effect of an injury received some days previous to the visit of the *Penacola*. Such assistance and medical advice as was possible under the circumstances was given and gratefully acknowledged by the captain of the vessel. The other vessels taking in guano were the ship *Conqueror*, of Boston, and bark *Mayberry*, of Portland, bound to Hampton Roads. The *Lyman* was bound for Havana. The U. S. Consular Agent, Mr. Stalpe, had left his post, but the American merchant captains were of opinion that their interests would not suffer during his absence.

The *Penacola* left Lobos Islands on Nov. 25 and arrived at Payta the 27th. The Chilean corvette *Chacabuco* and the armed transport *Amazonas* were found in port. The usual visits of courtesy were exchanged with the former. On the 28th the U. S. Consular Agent at Payta, Mr. Clark, called on board, and was saluted with five guns on leaving. The mail steamer from Panama arrived on the 30th, having on board as passenger Mr. Chas. Adams, U. S. Minister to Bolivia. Rear Admiral Balch at once called on him, and instructions were given to the *Adams* to convey the Minister from Payta to Mollendo. On Nov. 20 the vessels of the squadron united with the Italian corvette *Christopher Colombo* and the other men of war in port in celebrating the anniversary of the birthday of the Queen of Italy, by dressing ship, and the flagship firing salutes at 8 a. m., noon, and sunset. General health of officers and men in the squadron continues good. The *Penacola* would return to Callao in a few days, stopping perhaps at Chimbote on the way. The German corvette *Molke* arrived at Payta Dec. 1 and sailed in a few hours for Jose de Guatemala.

PORTSMOUTH, 3d rate, sails, 13 guns, Comdr. Wm. B. Hoff. Training ship. At Washington, repairing.

POWHATAN, 2d rate, 14 guns (s. s.), Capt. E. O. Matthews. At Boston, repairing.

QUINNEBAUG, 3d rate, 8 guns (e. s.), Comdr. Silas Casey, Jr. Left Villefranche, Sept. 7, for Marseilles, where she remained for upwards of two months repairing boilers, etc. Returned to Villefranche, Nov. 22. Comdr. Wm. Whitehead left New York, Dec. 17, to relieve Comdr. Casey.

RANGER, 3d rate, 4 guns, Comdr. John W. Philip. At Acapulco, Nov. 21. To proceed to the Central American coast on surveying duty.

RICHMOND, 2d rate, 14 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. J. S. Skerrett. Sailed Oct. 17 for the Asiatic Station.

RODGERS, Lieut. Robert M. Berry. Wintering at St. Lawrence Bay.

SARATOGA, 3d rate, 12 guns, Comdr. H. C. Taylor. Training ship. At Boston, repairing.

SHENANDOAH, 2d rate, 9 guns (f. s. a. s.), Capt. Wm. A. Kirkland. At Buenos Ayres, Nov. 1.

ST. MARY'S, sails, 8 guns, Captain Henry Erben. N. Y. School ship. At New York.

SWATARA, 3d rate, (a. s.) 8 guns, Commander Philip H. Cooper. At Yokohama, Oct. 22. Was inspected at Yokohama Nov. 17 and 18 by Rear-Admiral Clitz. Found her in such excellent condition as to prompt him to take especial notice of it in communicating with the Department. On the 17th the vessel was exercised at spar and sail drill in which she proved unusually proficient; and on the following day, at the ordnance inspection, she was found as efficient as a vessel of her class could be made. The Admiral reports that he has never seen a vessel in better general condition at an inspection—reflecting great credit on the commanding officer, officers and crew—and he would be pleased if the Department would make known its appreciation of their work.

TALLAPOOSA, 4th rate, 2 howitzers (a. s.), Comdr. Augustus G. Kellogg. Arrived at Washington, Dec. 20, from New York.

TENNESSEE, 1st rate, 23 guns (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. Joseph Fyffe. In dock at the Brooklyn yard. Nearly ready for sea.

The N. Y. *Tribune* of Friday says: "The flagship *Tennessee* was floated out of the Brooklyn Navy-yard dry dock yesterday, and proceeded to Ellis Island, in the bay, where she anchored to take in powder. While at anchor in the afternoon she was run into by a steamer, believed to be the *Western Star*, which came up in the fog and struck the *Tennessee* amidships. The flagship was cut down to the water's edge and had to be heeled over to one side by moving the artillery over to the side opposite to that on which she was struck, so as to prevent the water flowing in. It will be necessary to put the *Tennessee* again on the dry dock, and it will probably be a month before the necessary repairs can be made. The officers of the *Tennessee* say that she was anchored out of the channel and that the fog was not so dense but that the steamer could be seen from the deck of the *Tennessee* and was hailed before she struck the ship. The departure of the *Tennessee* for Aspinwall was set down for Tuesday next, but will be delayed some weeks by this accident."

VANDALLA, 2d rate, 8 guns (n. a. s.), Captain Richard W. Meade. Cruising in the Gulf of Mexico. Was at Bermuda, Dec. 5.

WACHUSSETT, 3d rate, 7 guns (s. s.), Comdr. Henry Glass. At Sitka, Alaska.

WYOMING, 3d rate, 7 guns (s. s.), Capt. J. E. Joubert. Stationed at Port Royal.

YANTIC, 3d rate, 4 guns (s. s.), Commander Edwin T. Woodward. Cruising in the Gulf of Mexico.

Receiving Ships, Iron-Clads, Etc.

ALARM*, torpedo ram, Mallory propeller (s. s.), Lieut. Giles B. Harber. At Washington.

COLORADO, 1st rate, 30 guns, Capt. D. B. Harney. Receiving ship, New York.

FORTUNE, 4th rate, 2 guns (a. s.), Pilot George Glass. At Norfolk.

FRANKLIN, 1st rate, 26 guns, Capt. Bushrod B. Taylor. Receiving ship. At Norfolk.

INDEPENDENCE, 3d rate, sails, 23 guns, Comdr. C. S. Norton. Receiving ship. At Mare Island, Cal.

INTREPID, torpedo ram, (s. s.), Lieut. Francis H. Delano. New York.

MONTAUK*, 4th rate, 2 guns, Lieut. George M. Book. Washington, D. C.

ONWARD, 4th rate, 3 guns (p. s.), Lieut.-Comdr. Thomas M. Gardner. Store ship. At Callao, Peru.

PASSAIO*, 4th rate, 2 guns, Comdr. Jas. D. Graham. Receiving ship, Washington.

PAWNEE, 3d rate, sails, (n. a. s.), Mate Jos. Reid. Hospital ship, Port Royal, S. C.

PHLOX, 4th rate (s. s.), Mate B. G. Perry. At Annapolis.

PILGRIM, 4th rate (s. s.), Pilot B. F. Chadwick. Service tug at League Island.

SNOWDROP, 4th rate (s. s.), Pilot F. Reynolds. Service tug at Norfolk yard.

ST. LOUIS, 3d rate, sails, Capt. Wm. E. Fitzhugh. Receiving ship, League Island.

WABASH, 1st rate, 29 guns, Capt. Jos. N. Miller. Receiving ship, Boston.

WYANDOTT*, 4th rate, 2 guns, Lieut. Wm. H. Webb. Washington.

The iron-clad *Ajax*; *Catkill*, Lieut. Jos. Marthon; *Lough*, Lieut.-Comdr. Geo. R. Durand; *Maropac*, Lieut. James A. Chesley; *Manhattan*; are laid up at City Point, Va.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The projectors of the International Exhibition of Ships' Models, to be held in London next May, are actively engaged in an endeavor to have competitors from the United States enter the lists, contribute models, and strive for the prizes offered. The classes of vessels are divided into war vessels, mercantile steamers, American river steamboats, sailing ships, yachts, fishing smacks, tugs, barges, boats, and steam launches. The vessels of war embrace sea-going iron-clads, to carry heavy guns and act as rams, iron-clads for coast or harbor defence, steel or iron corvettes of great speed, and torpedo boats adapted for a speed of 18 and 25 miles an hour. Competition is open to naval architects, shipbuilders, or ship owners of all nationalities, but no exhibitor can compete in more than two classes; nor can the model of any vessel be entered for competition which was built more than five years ago. Applications for entry must be made by March 15, 1882, and models must be delivered on April 20, 21, or 22, to Alfred D. Lewis, Honorable Secretary of the Shipwrights' Exhibition Committee, Fishmongers' Hall, London.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us a report of a base ball match played at Yokohama between the local club and the U. S. S. *Swatara* and *Monocacy*, which was won by the latter by 9 runs. As will be seen by the score below, the Navy men had 9 runs to Yokohama's 3 at the opening of the fourth innings, when the latter established an equality. Thereafter both sides played steadily and well till the eighth innings, when the Navy made 9 runs, the fielding of their adversaries deteriorating. As each side only scored one in the subsequent and final innings, the victory remained with the naval team:

YOKOHAMA.		SWATARA AND MONOCACY.	
	R. O.		R. O.
Churchill, p.	2	3 Fullam, 2d b.	3 3
W. L. Merriman, c.	2	2 O'Neil, c.	3 4
Denison, 1st b.	2	3 Foulke, r. f.	3 2
Knox, s.	2	3 Wright, l. f.	3 3
J. S. Van Buren, l. f.	2	3 McLean, p.	1 3
F. S. Morse, 2d b.	0	4 Fols, 3d b.	2 3
Hepburn, 3d b.	1	3 Leiper, 1st b.	2 4
H. S. Van Buren, c. f.	2	3 Spicer, c. f.	3 3
Beauchamp, r. f.	2	3 Cabanis, s.	4 2
	15		24
Innings.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		
Yokohama.	2 0 0 1 6 4 1 0 1—15		Runs.
Swatara.	2 4 0 2 1 5 0 9 1—24		"

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Dec. 15, 1881.

General Order No. 280.

Every officer of the Navy visiting Washington will, within twenty-four hours after his arrival, register his name and city address at the Office of Detail, Navy Department.

WILLIAM H. HUNT, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16, 1881.

General Order No. 281.

General Order No. 272 is modified as follows:

Apprentices who have re-enlisted under Continuous Service Certificates for three years may be admitted to the gunnery ship for instruction, subject to the conditions of paragraph 11 in the said Order. When they shall have successfully passed the prescribed course they will receive certificates as seaman gunners, and pay at the rate of \$26.50 per month.

The pay of seaman gunners who re-enlist for three years will be \$33.50 per month in addition to the longevity allowance due to the Continuous Service Certificate, provided, that the seaman gunner shall pass a satisfactory examination, (on board the gunnery ship if practicable,) and shall have received, during his service afloat, the favorable report of his commanding officer.

No seaman gunner shall receive the increased pay of \$33.50 until he has served, as such, at least two years on board a sea-going vessel.

Seaman gunners may be required to perform the duties of any petty officer, with the pay of that rating, if higher than their own.

Such portions of General Order No. 272 as are not affected by this Order will remain in force.

WILLIAM H. HUNT, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

DECEMBER 17.—Lieutenant Isaac Hazlett and Master Joseph L. Hunsicker, to examination for promotion. Lieutenant John C. Rich, Ensign Wm. G. Hannum, Passed Assistant Paymaster S. Denison Hurlbut, Chief Engineer Charles E. De Valin, Cadet Engineers, Albert Moritz, and G. W. McElroy, to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Assistant Engineer Geo. S. Willits, to take charge of the department of steam engineering and iron ship building in the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania. Passed Assistant Surgeon A. G. Cabell, to the Palos, Asiatic Station.

Passed Assistant Engineer J. L. Hannum, as assistant to the coal inspector at Philadelphia.
Cadet Engineer Robert S. Griffin, to the Tennessee.
Cadet Engineer Walter M. McFarland, to examination for promotion.

Carpenter Josiah P. Carter, to duty in the department of Yards and Docks at the Navy-yard, Boston.
Passed Assistant Surgeon D. N. Bertolotto to Naval Academy.

Lieutenant-Commander B. H. McCalla to special duty in Bureau of Navigation.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Nelson M. Ferebee to Naval Hospital, Norfolk.

Assistant Paymaster Thomas J. Cowie to temporary duty, Navy Pay Office, Washington.

Mate A. P. Oshford to Tallapoosa.

DETACHED.

DECEMBER 17.—Lieutenant Jacob W. Miller, from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Master Mason A. Shufeldt, from special duty, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Master Wm. E. Whitfield, from the Wyoming, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Ensign N. J. L. Halpine, from the Passaic on the 31st of December, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Midshipman Robert F. Lopez, from the Minnesota, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Midshipman Edward Lloyd, from the receiving ship Franklin, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Midshipmen Walter J. Sears and Reuben O. Bitler, from the receiving ship Wabash, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

Midshipmen Leigh O. Garrett, Chas. C. Marsh and Rennie P. Schwerin, from the training ship Minnesota, and ordered to the training ship New Hampshire.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Frank C. Dale, from the Palos, Asiatic Station, on reporting of relief, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

Passed Assistant Engineer C. J. Habighurst, from special duty at Philadelphia, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

DECEMBER 21.—Lieutenant Wm. H. Reeder, from special duty at Washington, and ordered to duty at the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

Passed Assistant Surgeon George P. Lumsden, from Na Academy, and ordered to the Pensacola.

Assistant Surgeon A. C. H. Russell, from the Pensacola, and ordered to return home.

Mate Samuel Gee, from Fishhawk, and ordered to Naval Academy.

Mate O. H. Cleaveland, from Tallapoosa, and ordered to the Fishhawk.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Richard A. Urquhart, from the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, and ordered to the receiving ship.

Assistant Paymaster O. C. Tiffany has reported his return home, having been detached from Alert, Asiatic Squadron November 6 last, and is ordered to settle accounts.

PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

Lieutenant-Commander Leonard Cheney, from the 20th December, 1881.

ORDERS MODIFIED.

The orders of Surgeon M. C. Drennan so far modified that he will regard himself detached from the Naval Station without waiting for relief, and ordered to the Enterprise on the 10th of January.

COMMISSIONED.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Henry C. Machette to be a Paymaster in the Navy from June 16, 1881.

Assistant Paymaster Chas. W. Littlefield to be a Passed Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from June 16, 1881.

Assistant Paymaster Callender I. Lewis to be a Passed Assistant Paymaster in the Navy from August 31, 1881.

MARINE CORPS.

ORDERED.

First Lieutenant Richard Wabach, to duty at the Marine Barracks, Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

DETACHED.

First Lieutenant O. P. Porter, from the training ship Minnesota, and ordered to command the Marine Guard of the training ship Portsmouth.

Second Lieutenant S. J. Logan, from the training ship Portsmouth, and ordered to duty at the Marine Barracks, Washington.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Major Geo. P. Houston for thirty days from December 20.

To Captain G. B. Haycock for three months for the recovery of his health.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

THE second reception given by the officers of the Colorado took place Monday afternoon. The attendance was large and enjoyment plentiful. Dancing from 2 until 5.

A draft of 65 apprentice boys, in charge of Lieut. Bleeker, arrived at the yard on Dec. 16 from Newport. They were transferred to the Tallapoosa, which sailed immediately on their arrival for Washington, via Norfolk. Some of the boys were for the Essex, at the Norfolk Navy-yard, and the balance for the Enterprise, fitting out at the Washington yard.

Rear-Admiral Wyman has returned from Washington and Civil Engr. Frindle from Philadelphia.

A board, of which Capt. Selfridge is president, reported for duty on Monday. They are to take charge of the experiments to be made with Ericsson's torpedo boat Destroyer, which is now laying at the yard, and make a report to the Navy Department.

Chief Engr. Garvin has been detached from the board of which Chief Engr. Isherwood is president, and Chief Engr. Danby ordered as his successor.

The Tennessee came out of dock on Wednesday. She will sail in about ten days for Aspinwall.

Commodore Walker and Seward, the former Chief of Bureau of Navigation and the latter Chief of Bureau of Ordnance, arrived at the yard Tuesday, and spent the day witnessing the experiments being carried on with the Destroyer.

Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Cooper will receive Jan. 2.

Lieut. E. W. Remy reported for duty on the Tennessee on Monday, relieving Master W. H. Schoutte, who is detached and placed on waiting orders.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

NEWPORT (R. I.) JOTTINGS.

NEWPORT, R. I., Dec. 23, 1881.

THE naval officers here were jubilant over the news of the safety of the officers and crew of the Jeannette.

Capt. Rodney, stationed at Fort Adams, has left town on a two months' leave of absence. Lieuts. Alexander and Anderson, also stationed at Fort Adams, are out of town on leave of absence.

The family of Dr. Hammond, U. S. A., have arrived here.

Dr. W. I. Simon, U. S. N., and family, are stopping at the Perry House.

Commodore S. B. Luce, U. S. N., has returned from New York. Lieuts. Aaron Ward and John V. B. Bleeker, of the Navy, have also returned from the Empire City.

Capt. Thomas O. Selfridge, U. S. N., in command of the Torpedo Station, left here on Monday night for New York, for the purpose of performing the duties assigned him as a member of the Board appointed to experiment with Ericsson's torpedo boat Destroyer.

Commander Allan D. Brown, U. S. N., has succeeded in getting two barrels of reading matter for the members of the life saving stations, the same having been shipped for distribution by that officer to the general inspector in New York.

The revenue cutter Moccasin, whose name has recently been changed to George M. Bibbs, was stationed here for many years, and it was while on this station that her gallant skipper, the late Capt. Ritchie, captured off this place the Cuban privateer Pioneer, which was brought here and detained by the Government for a long time. It was "a celebrated case," indeed.

A draft of 75 boys were taken from the New Hampshire to the Brooklyn Navy-yard for duty on board of the Tennessee, on Thursday night, by Lieut. Bleeker.

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, Colonel Fearing, of this city, is to be furnished with helmets.

The following are the names of the boys who deserted from the flagship New Hampshire a few days ago: Henry Eagles, James F. Cady, John P. Fusiler, Joseph Schneider, Fred. Sticker, Robert Fisher, Daniel J. Foley, Max Brook, William Spencer, Gustave E. Maschke, Andrew J. Knox, William Thomas, John Wolfenden, William H. McMillon, Herbert A. Stuyker, Stephen H. C. Miller, James P. Williams, Frank H. Lapham, William Johnson, James A. McGinley, Charles H. Simms, James H. Galligan, Samuel Marchant, Joseph M. Merchant, Bernard J. McKenn, Frank Simpson, J. J. Black, Arthur Von Ette, Henry A. Warner, Thomas McElroy, and James McMechan.

A farce, in one act, entitled "An Unprotected Female," was presented at the Casino Wednesday evening to a large and distinguished audience. Many Army and Navy officers were present. Midshipmen Knapp and Gibbons, of the Navy, were among the participants, the former appearing as "Mr. McMulligan," an exile from Erin, and the latter as "Tom Temple," a medical student. Both of these gentlemen acquitted themselves with credit, and were enthusiastically applauded.

Mate A. P. Bashford, U. S. N., who has been on sick leave for a long time, and who has been stationed at the torpedo station, has been ordered to the Tallapoosa, at Washington.

(Correspondence Army and Navy Journal.)

NOTES FROM ANNAPOLIS.

THE arrangements for the annual ball of the Naval Cadets are being pushed forward successfully. It is to be held on the 9th of January, and it is expected will surpass former balls in point of numbers and in brilliancy. Large representation from New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and other points are expected. The cadets, as has already been stated, will give a Christmas Eve hop. Monday succeeding Christmas will be observed at the Naval Academy as a holiday.

Lieut. W. M. Wood, U. S. N., who is in charge of the Fish Commission steamer Lookout, recently deposited a number of fish at the mouth of the Severn river as an experiment. Several naval officers accompanied Lieut. Wood on his expedition, and were much pleased with the trip and the experiment.

Lieut. B. H. McCalla, late of the Powhatan, visited the Naval Academy on Tuesday. Gen. Lapham, of New York, and family were at Annapolis during the week.

Six marines from the Naval Academy garrison acted as pall-bearers at the funeral of an ex-member of the corps last week. The new quarters for the Marines are nearly completed. Sergt. Daniel O'Leone has been promoted to first (orderly) Sergt. at the garrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Balthis, of Illinois, who have been in attendance on their son during his illness at the Naval Academy for the past six weeks, have returned to their home. Cadet Balthis is rapidly recovering.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

BOSTON NAVY-YARD.

BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 23, 1881.

THERE will be a Christmas tree at the chapel, for the little folks, on Saturday evening.

The "Powhatan Boys in Blue" will give a grand ball at Turn Hall, Boston, Dec. 28, for which invitations are already issued.

The crew of the Saratoga has been transferred to the Wabash, and the steerage officers now mess on the Wabash. The ward-room officers are living in town, but are still on duty. The Saratoga is stripped to her lower masts.

The Construction Department has been obliged to reduce its force. Several men were suspended on Tuesday, and it is announced that more will be suspended on Saturday.

The meeting of the Shakspeare Club on Monday night, at the residence of Lieut.-Comdr. O'Neil, was a great success. A very general interest in the club is felt by its members. The next meeting will be at the house of Paymaster Arms, Jan. 2.

Commodore Ransom went to New London on Wednesday on a two-weeks' leave of absence.

Capt. Phythian has gone to Brooklyn, on special duty as a member of the board to examine the Destroyer.

Dr. Walton, of the Powhatan, has gone to Norfolk to spend Christmas with his family.

Carpenter J. P. Carter reported for duty in yards and docks on Tuesday.

Master Frank Arms, who is a member of St. Paul's school, at Concord, N. H., is at home for the Christmas holidays.

Lieut. Jas. H. Bull, of the Powhatan, has returned from leave, as has Passed Asst. Engr. A. B. Willitt.

A draft of fifteen boys from the New Hampshire arrived at the yard on Wednesday for the Powhatan.

The revenue cutter Galatin, which has been repairing at East Boston, came off the ways on Monday, and is now ready for sea. Lieut. Kilgore, formerly of the Navy, is her executive officer.

SOME NEW BOOKS.

THE October, November, and December numbers of the "American Veterinary Review" contain an excellent history, by A. A. Holcombe, D. V. S., Veterinary Inspector, U. S. A., of "Army Veterinary Medicine; The Present Condition of the Army Veterinary Surgeon; His Rights as a Representative of a Scientific Profession and What is Required by the Government to Establish an Efficient Veterinary Department." The various steps towards placing on a respectable footing the Veterinary Corps of the Army are noted. On this point Dr. Holcombe says: "But out of this gloom, like a sunburst from a darkly overcast sky, came the order of March 27, 1879, in which the Army Veterinary Surgeon was given a very good supply table, and greatest improvement of all, confining all future appointments in the Army to 'graduates of established and reputable veterinary schools or colleges.' By this action of the War Department true veterinary surgery was recognized as distinct from quackery, and the value of a scientific education conceded. While this was not all that could have been expected from the Government, it was all the War Department had the power to concede." He concludes with many sensible recommendations tending to place the Veterinary Surgeons of the Army on an adequate and respectable footing, having in view their usefulness and the needs of the Service.

The Messrs. Barnes and Co. have disposed of the "International Review" to the International Review Company, of which Mr. Robert P. Porter, the well-known statistician and author is the general manager and editor, with office at 279 Broadway, New York City. The number for January, 1882, will contain, among other articles, one by Colonel Garrick Mallory, U. S. A., on "Spurious Symbolism," and one by Surgeon John S. Billings, U. S. A., on "The International Medical Congress," heretofore referred to in the JOURNAL.

The Southern Historical Society, Richmond, Va., inform us that sets of their published papers, enough to make eight bound volumes, will be sold, until February 1, 1882, at \$10 per set. Two hundred sets will thus be disposed of, but as the sale is made to raise funds for a specific purpose, the reduced rate will not be in force after February 1. There is much interesting historical matter in these papers, in which our great war is viewed from the Southern point of view.

A statistical volume has recently been published in France by M. Mathieu Bodet which gives a detailed account of the French war debt. It says: After the downfall of the Empire France found herself almost crushed under a total additional debt of no less than £520,000,000, £9,240,000 being the amount of the burden added by the vagaries of the Commune. The invasions of 1814 and 1815 left the country a legacy of no small dimensions—viz., £29,200,000—but this was not a fifth part of the charges which resulted directly from the war of 1870, without reckoning the increase of the ordinary army and navy estimates, which, after the invasions of 1814 and 1815, were even reduced from 500,000,000fr. to 208,000,000fr. The meeting of the vast increment of expenditure entailed by the events of 1871 was one of the most marvellous financial feats on record. A loan of 2,000,000,000fr. was contracted in 1871, and another of 3,000,000,000fr. in 1872. Notwithstanding the enormous increase of taxation about to become necessary, French and foreign capitalists offered for the first 5,000,000,000fr., and for the second 43,000,000,000fr. The Government had at the same time, and without delay, to create new taxes to meet the new burden consequent upon these loans, and upon the reorganization of the vast military material and service which had been shattered by the war. Twenty-eight million pounds sterling of new revenue were needed to do this. A scheme for new taxes was completed in 1875, and although the ordinary expenditure has been increasing, taxes have been remitted, and already 13,000,000 out of the £28,000,000 which had to be added to the burdens of the country have been dispensed with.

From the War Department of Madrid we have received a portly and interesting work of 946 pages, entitled "Military Administrative Study of the Universal Exposition of 1878, by Subintendente Militar D. Augusto Munoz y Madrid, and Comisario de Guerra Graduado D. Fernando Aramburu y Silva." In this general review which precedes the specific military studies, we find it said with truth that the United States made but a "small show" at Paris, compared with England, and a very incomplete one, too, compared with the possibilities disclosed by the Philadelphia Exhibition of 1876. However, justice is due to such excellent exhibits as our country gave. In the main part of the book very full descriptions are given of all that the Exposition could teach in the military art; and this summary is so good that some of our readers may find it well to look into the Spanish work, in the lack of anything precisely similar in English.

COLONEL R. I. DODGE, U. S. A., A. D. C. to General Sherman has, in press, a valuable work on the Indians, which it is expected will be ready for issue Dec. 24. The book is handsomely illustrated with chromo lithographs, from designs by J. E. Taylor, which, for truth and action, are described by one who has seen them as something seldom equalled in Indian pictures. We shall refer to the work in full hereafter.

THE Mechanical Organette Company, of 831 Broadway, New York city, have produced an organette which, with its automatic music sheets, embodies in itself the expert musician and graphic music teacher; and is a never ending source of pleasure to young and old. They have also produced a "cabinetto," or small musical cabinet of strong and durable construction, capable of rendering sacred and other music with expression. The case is of solid black walnut, nicely finished with gilt trimmings and with ebonyed base. The "cabinetto" of above description costs \$30, including 100 feet of music, and additional feet containing an endless variety of tunes can be obtained.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1891.

The total membership is now..... 804
The accessions since Sept. 1st have been..... 31
The amount due the beneficiary of Lieut. Plummer, 15th Inf.,
is \$2,640.53, half of which has been paid.
The next annual meeting of the Association will be held Jan.
10, 1893, at the Army Medical Museum, when the votes received
on the proposed amendments to the constitution will be can-
vassed. Should these modifications be adopted (which seems
probable, judging from the tenor of votes already received by the
Secretary), the effect will be to considerably increase the initia-
tion fee, but those who apply to join before the close of the pre-
sent year will be entitled to admission by the payment of the ini-
tiatory dues according to existing rates.
It is greatly to be desired that every member of the Association
be represented at this meeting, either in person or by proxy, for
the questions under discussion are of the first importance, and
the fullest expression of opinion is desired.
The circular issued by the Executive Committee on Sept. 1st,
which contains a full text of the proposed changes, together
with a discussion of the provisions, was sent several weeks since
to each member.
A duplicate ballot in blank has this day been sent to each mem-
ber whose vote has not already been received.
By order of the Executive Committee.
Geo. W. Davis, Capt. 14th Inf., Secretary.

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the matter our immediate attention.
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The two Houses of Congress will assemble in the
Hall of the House of Representatives, at some time to
be fixed hereafter, to listen to an address upon the life
and character of James Abram Garfield, by Hon.
James G. Blaine. Among those to be invited are the
General of the Army and the Admiral of the Navy,
and such officers of the Army and Navy as have
received the thanks of Congress, who may then be at
the seat of Government. Resolutions to this effect
were passed on Wednesday.

The departure of the *Tennessee* for Aspinwall will be
delayed some weeks by the unfortunate accident to her,
which is reported under our Navy heading.

THE WRECK OF THE JEANNETTE.

The mystery surrounding the fate of the *Jeannette* is
at length solved. During the past week a thrilling
story has come from the Arctic through the authorities
of Eastern Siberia, in which joy, fear, anxiety and
sympathy are strangely commingled. The despatches
on this subject we print in another column. Briefly re-
capitulated, they show that the *Jeannette* was crushed
on the 23d of last June in the ice, at about lat. 77 N.
and long. 157 E., and that her officers and crew escaped
in three boats to the Siberian coast, where, after ninety
days of toil and suffering, two of the boats reached one
of the mouths of the River Lena, while the third has
not yet been heard from. Thus regret for the wreck of
the expedition is counterpoised by joy at the escape of
her officers and crew, and this again is dashed with
anxiety over the fate of the missing boat and the con-
dition of the rescued.

While speculation has naturally been rife as to what
the *Jeannette* did after September, 1879, it is as yet of
little value. We cannot tell what success she had in
journeying toward the Pole. Nothing but the de-
spatches can be of avail in determining this question,
and these do not yet record anything save the fate of
the vessel and the boats. Still, this last is the real sub-
ject for the moment.

Mr. Hoffman, at St. Petersburg, has been instructed
to take prompt action for the relief of the survivors,
and Mr. George Kennan, who, some years ago, travelled
over both the alternate routes which might be employed
by them in making their way southward from the
mouth of the Lena, has addressed a letter to Secretary
Frelinghuysen on the subject. He pronounces imprac-
ticable the sending of a vessel for them through Beh-
ring's Straits, because she could not get there till next
summer, and might not get there at all; and she would
be till the following year returning. The survivors,
meanwhile, would endure eight or nine months more of
hardship. They must be at once brought on sledges to
the city of Yakoutsk, and very probably arrangements
for this purpose have already been made by the local
authorities. Still, it would be safest to send telegraphic
orders and money to Irkutsk.

From Yakoutsk they may reach home, pursues Mr.
Kennan, by any one of three routes. First, they may
go overland to St. Petersburg by the Imperial Russian
Post, via Irkutsk, Tomsk, Omsk, Ekaterineburg, and
Moscow; second, they may be sent eastward across the
Stanovoi Mountains on reindeer sledges to the seaport
of Okhotsk, on the Okhotsk Sea, and there be called for
next summer by a vessel from America; or, third, they
may go up the Lena River by post this winter or by
steamer in the spring, and thence by post or steamer
down the Amoor to Nikolaevsk, where they may be
called for as soon as navigation opens in the summer by
one of our ships from the Asiatic station.

The first of these routes is the longest way about, but
the quickest home—it would cost the most, but they
will be at St. Petersburg in March and in America by
April. Mr. Kennan travelled from Yakoutsk to St.
Petersburg in 45 days, four years ago, and this journey
would cost \$300 per man, including subsistence. The
second route is the shortest, but the hardest—Mr. Ken-
nan made it over very bad roads, in the autumn of 1867,
in 21 days; but there might not be sledges enough
available for the whole party. The third route is 2,500
miles or more, following the windings of the river, but
is a nice summer trip. If the survivors reach Yakoutsk
early enough and well enough for an overland journey,
Mr. Kennan counsels this, provided the Government or
Mr. Bennett will pay the cost. Otherwise, he would
advise the third route. While there must be anxiety
for their fate until they reach Yakoutsk, there they will
find everything for their comfort and health, and the
homeward journey will be safe.

It is a matter of course that the *Rodgers* would be
directed to search for the missing boat, should she long
remain unheard from. But as it would take several
weeks to communicate with her, and then very long for
the *Rodgers* to get to the point required, probably the
boat will much sooner be discovered. It has been sug-
gested that the missing boat is near the Kolyma or In-
dighirka Rivers, and that as a party from the *Rodgers*
has gone to the great fair which is held annually every
fall near the mouth of the Kolyma River, it will be a
very good place to hear about any strangers who have
landed in Siberia.

With this story of the adventures and sufferings of
the *Jeannette* in "the thrilling regions of thick-ribbed
ice," the latest of our Polar expeditions comes to an
end. The vessel itself follows the fate of the *Hansa*,
the *Polaris*, and the *Tegethoff*; but whether, like the
two latter, it has reaped advantages from the trip which
make its loss a willing sacrifice, is yet to be determined.

The preparation of the boats with supplies for a journey lasting so long shows a degree of deliberation greater than was allowed in the case of the *Polaris*, while if the second boat has come safe ashore, and the survivors who were so terribly frost-bitten have recovered from their injuries, there will be cause for rejoicing in this issue of the adventurous voyage. The father of Lieut. Chipp, who is in command of boat No. 2, believes his son is safe, and he relates a curious dream that he had last June that the *Jeannette* was crushed in the ice. The uniform testimony is to the friendly treatment that may be expected from the inhabitants of the Siberian coast.

Whether there is much hope of reaching the Pole with our present appliances forms a larger question for discussion. It would really seem wise to cry a halt for a while, until either some trustworthy system of ballooning, or some system of regular approaches, from a chain of established stations, offers more promise than the present plan. Still, it must always be remembered that reaching the Pole itself is not the only aim in Arctic exploration. Those people who expect to find Symmes's Hole there may well be anxious about it; and those who indulge in the only less credulous vision of an open Polar sea may also desire to get to the point of no latitude. But the recent discoveries of Hall, Nares, Weyprecht, and Payer show that there is much of interest to be learned far short of the Pole, while the *Rodgers* and the *Corwin* have just made disclosures regarding Wrangel Island. Perhaps the *Jeannette* will be found to have something to add to our Arctic lore, even if the information be at a terrible cost.

A MILITARY COURT OF APPEAL.

THE discussion of Gen. Fry's paper on this subject, at last Saturday's meeting of the Military Service Institution, disclosed great interest in the topic, and a recognition of its importance. A majority of the speakers supported heartily the main proposition of Gen. Fry's disquisition, namely, the desirability of a court of appeal higher than the present system of courts-martial. There was some questioning of the practicability of such a court of appeal, and to this Gen. McIntosh added an expression of belief that it was not only impracticable, but undesirable. His opinion of its undesirability was based on the sufficiency of the present system. For, he argued, as to questions of fact, all the time required by the defence, for which, of course, the proposed appeal is designed, to prepare its case, is given. And as the defendant gets a trial by his peers, and by officers of the Army, he presumably has not only brought forward all the facts he has to bring—all required extensions of time being given him—but these facts are passed upon by a competent and intelligent court. Then, as to questions of law, any mistake in that particular is already provided for by the Bureau of Military Justice; "for I believe we have a Judge-Advocate's department versed in the review of such law points, have we not, Major Gardner?" said the speaker, bowing very ingenuously to that officer, who had spoken in favor of the need of the court of appeal, and provoking a general smile at the neatness of the retort. Then, as to the practicability of the court, Gen. McIntosh argued that it would limit or take away the President's power, interposing between his reviewing and confirmatory power as Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and his more general prerogatives as President of the United States. This he held to be unconstitutional.

Major Gardner, who had been the first speaker, paid a high compliment to the thought and logic of Gen. Fry's disquisition, with whose general conclusions he found himself in accord. He showed very clearly that the military courts were fully up to the level of the civil courts, in every respect, and had probably fewer decisions modified or overruled than the nisi prius courts at civil law. From his experience in practice in both courts, he was sure the military courts could confidently invite comparisons in the securing of justice according to law; and after all, Courts-martial were essentially and strictly courts whose proceedings were governed by statute law. He referred very happily to the recent case of the suit for damages against General Newton, where a large majority of the jury were for this officer, and yet they did not agree, as an illustration of occasional annoyances or defects in the jury system, as compared with Courts-martial. But, after all, the well-known effects of extraneous, personal and political influences, sometimes improperly exercised, for the partial defeat, by restoration or otherwise, of the justice meted out by Courts-martial, showed defects in the working of the latter system, not inherent in the courts themselves. Now, how could these be remedied? A court of appeal would strengthen and reinforce the courts below. It

would revise, if revision were needed; if none were needed, it would greatly decrease the probability of improperly setting the decision aside, through the extraneous influences already spoken of. Judge Advocate Gardner suggested that the appeal might even be taken up to the nearest Circuit Court, for such a court could perfectly decide whether the military law had been observed or not. "I would have the execution of the sentence suspended for thirty days, to allow the condemned to make his case and appeal to the Circuit Judge of the district in which the court was held, but I would give the Judge power to pass on errors in law. On matters of fact, the findings of the Court should be final." Or, the system proposed by General Fry, of a military court of appeal, could be carried out if deemed more advisable.

Lieut. Wood dissented strongly from the proposition to take appeals to the Circuit Court. He held that there were differences enough between military and civil methods and procedures to make it inadvisable to resort to the Circuit Court as one of reviewing power; and he expressed the belief that there were difficulties also in the establishment of the court which General Fry proposed. Still, with the main idea of General Fry, he was heartily in accord, because it was necessary to do something to give the decisions of Courts-martial more respect and more finality than they got now.

General Fry disclaimed any intention to interfere with any prerogative of the President, whether as Commander-in-Chief, or otherwise, and pointed out that there could really be no infringement of the President's pardoning power as the head of the Government.

The time passed so rapidly in debate that Gen. Gibson, first expressing dissent from the views of General McIntosh, moved the postponement of the discussion to the next meeting, when it is believed that a still more extended expression of opinion will be elicited, if opportunity favors.

FOREIGN NAVIES.

At the moment of launching upon Congress and the country an important scheme for the reconstruction of our Navy, it will be timely and instructive to observe what foreign maritime powers of the first class are doing, in order that we may know what our ships must expect to meet.

In England, according to *Engineering*, the programme of the present year includes the building of at least 10,816 tons of armor-clad shipping. During the past year 9,325 tons were built. The armor-clads completing during the present year 1881-2 are: The *Inflexible*, now at sea; the *Polyphemus*, now also nearly or quite completed; and the *Ajaz* and *Agamemnon*, which are advancing towards completion side by side at Chatham. The *Ajaz* and *Agamemnon* are of the same design as the *Inflexible*, but have a displacement of 8,490 tons, whereas the displacement of the *Inflexible* is 11,400 tons, and they each carry four 38-ton guns, whereas the *Inflexible* carries four 80-ton guns. Thus, at the end of the present year, the British armor-clad fleet will be increased by 31,020 tons of shipping, carrying four 80-ton guns and four 38-ton guns, and the powerful torpedo attack of the *Polyphemus*. Besides these, there are eight armor-clad buildings: The *Imperieuse* and *Warspite*, each of 7,890 tons displacement and 8,000 horse-power, and armed with 38-ton guns; the *Collingwood*, the *Rodney*, and a third ship, of 9,150 tons displacement and 7,000 horse power, each heavily armed with two 48-ton guns, and one gun of the heaviest and most powerful description manufactured, probably weighing from 60 to 70 tons. The *Colossus* and *Majestic*, the former building at Portsmouth and the latter at Pembroke, are each of 9,150 tons displacement and 6,000 horse power, and armed with 38-ton guns. Lastly, the *Conqueror*, completing at Chatham, is of 8,260 tons displacement and 4,500 horse power, also armed with 38-ton guns. Allowing the usual time for building and completing these ships, the armor-clad tonnage added to the British navy during the next few years will be as follows: 1882-3, the *Conqueror* and *Majestic*, 15,410 tons; 1883-4, the *Colossus* and *Collingwood*, 18,900 tons; 1884-5, the *Imperieuse*, *Rodney*, and *Warspite*, 23,980 tons; and so on.

But, in addition to these, there is the unarmored shipping of the British navy to be considered. The authority already quoted says that the British are building four swift despatch vessels of 3,730 tons displacement, of the same design as the *Iris* and *Mercury*, three by contract by Messrs. Napier and Co., of Glasgow, and a fourth at Pembroke; four corvettes, three of which will be of 2,880 tons displacement, and similar to the *Constance*, and the fourth rather larger; and besides these there are about twenty smaller vessels, of from about 500 to 1,000 tons displacement, building at various places.

It would seem that the French preparations for a future Navy are even more vast than the English; for Mr. Trevelyan's recent comparison of the British navy with that of the French was—27 non-obsolete English armor-clads in commission and reserve, against 18 French armor-clads; or, including obsolete ships, 47 armor-clads of all classes, of which 27 are in commission, while the French have 36 armor-clads of all classes, of which 10 are in commission. Mr. Trevelyan admitted that the French are completing and building 17 armor-clads of different sorts and sizes, while the British are completing and building only 10. Admiral Sir T. Symonds, in a letter to the *London Times*, says: "Our numbers of armored ships are 58 English to 61 French," and "the unarmored ships are nowhere." In a subsequent letter he says: "The French have six sea-going armor-clads armed with 72-ton and 75-ton guns, 17-in. and 14.7-in., besides nine armor-clads with 48-ton guns, 13.5-in.; while the British have one armored ship, armed with 80-ton guns, below which 43-ton and 38-ton are the heaviest guns mounted." In a letter to the *Army and Navy Gazette* the Admiral says: "The French have also nine armor-clads armed with 48-ton guns, which we at present only meet by 43 and 38-ton guns, and their total of vessels armored outnumbers us. The French coast defence is immensely superior to the English in guns, speed, size of ships; and in numbers as six to five; also armor."

The last-mentioned paper states that Russia's naval programme for the ensuing year, recently issued, also contemplates great work, and it is particularly interesting to Americans on account of the system advocated. It is evident, according to the *Gazette*, that the reaction in favor of swift cruisers which took place when it was found that England feared Russia's privateers more than ironclads, is still in active progress. "On the outbreak of war in 1877, the superiority in masted vessels lay with Turkey, and Russia had the advantage in heavy, mastless ironclads. When it was found that, from various causes, the twenty-nine ironclads of Russia were practically worthless," Admiral Lesovsky's plan of frigate cruisers was welcomed. The following passage in the account from which we quote is very curious:

The exploits of the war steamers in the Black Sea, insignificant though they were, gave an impulse to the policy which Admiral Lesovsky had always advocated in favor of frigate cruisers. Russia replaced her fleet of twenty-nine ironclads, mainly mastless, with a fleet of twenty cruisers, all provided with sail, but she discovered that her officers and seamen were ill adapted for the new service. During their years of service on board monitors they had forgotten seamanship, or had omitted to learn it practically; and hence, when Lesovsky's fleet proceeded to the Pacific, all manner of mishaps arose from the ignorance and awkwardness of those in command, and the Admiralty grew alive to the fact that twenty or thirty days' practice annually on board floating batteries, like the four "Admirals" in the Baltic, was ill adapted to turn out officers and seamen fit to manœuvre the frigates of the *General Admiral* or *Minia* type in the open sea. Thus the mastless ironclads of the Popoff regime had the effect, among other evils, of sensibly deteriorating the seamanship of Russia, although it is but fair to that much-abused Admiral to admit that the country would have probably suffered from the fashion all the same, even if any other Constructor had been in power, and had reflected the tendencies of Western European States.

Our authority proceeds to say that the Russian practice squadron in the Baltic, instead of consisting next year of a total of three ironclads, not suited for sail power, and rarely put under steam, will comprise three full-rigged ships, the ironclad *Ne Tron Menyai*, and the clippers *Nazdnik* and *Djigit*, in excess of two mastless ironclads and two or three new sailing brigs. The squadron will be manned by 141 officers, 81 midshipmen, and 1,650 seamen. The three other Baltic squadrons will undergo very little material alteration. They are the artillery, the torpedo, and the marine school squadrons. The Black Sea fleet will be strong, of course. A powerful squadron is arranged for service in the Pacific, the ironclad frigate *Duke of Edinburgh*, the clippers *Vestnik* and *Platoon*, and the Atlantic cruiser *Africa* being designated to remain permanently there; while the frigate *Prince Pojarsky*, the cruiser *Alba*, and the clipper *Strelak* will be replaced by the frigate *Minia*, the corvette *Vitia*, and the clipper *Razboinik*. In this manner the squadron will actually consist of two ironclad frigates, three clippers, and two cruisers—all, except one, new vessels; and its personnel, with that of the Siberian flotilla, will amount to 250 officers and 3,000 seamen. Our contemporary holds that all this shows that Russia believes in Lesovsky's maxim "that the Pacific is the best school for seamen," and that she desires to retain preponderance over England's naval power in China seas. The personnel of the entire Russian fleet next season will amount to 11 admirals, 1,700 officers, and 18,000 seamen.

Following is the tabulated statement of the unarmored sea-going vessels built by the six most prominent Naval

Powers of Europe since 1867, (modern cruisers), prepared for the Advisory Naval Board:

Nation.	Over 6,000 Tons Displacement.	6,000 to 5,000 Tons.	5,000 to 4,000 Tons.	4,000 to 3,000 Tons.	3,000 to 2,000 Tons.	2,000 to 1,000 Tons.	1,000 to 600 Tons.	Under 600 Tons.	Total.
Austria.....	1	2	1	2	2	3	4	11	141
Great Britain....	1	2	1	2	11	29	30	57	141
France.....	1	2	1	2	9	23	11	49	141
Germany.....	1	2	1	2	10	3	4	19	141
Holland.....	1	2	1	2	1	2	16	24	141
Italy.....	1	2	1	2	1	4	1	6	141
	1	4	1	24	34	64	65	57	250

There were 138 British war vessels in commission January 1, 1881, excluding yachts, tugs and three gun-boats. Of these 28 were iron clads; 2 were between 5,000 and 6,000 tons; 1 between 4,000 and 5,000; 3, 3,000 to 4,000; 7, 2,000 to 3,000; 30, 1,000 to 2,000; 23, 600 to 1,000, and 45 under 600; 23 were in China waters, 37 at home, 11 in the Pacific, 19 in the Mediterranean, 6 on detached service, 13 in the East Indies, 10 each in the North American and African stations, 6 in Australian and 4 in Brazilian waters.

LETTER FROM GEN. SHERMAN.

GEN. SHERMAN has lately written the following characteristic and interesting letter to Gen. Landrum, of Lancaster, Ky.:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 5.

DEAR LANDRUM: I have received and read with great pleasure your address before the Historical Society of Kentucky, and can endorse every word you say as to the patriotism and great influence of the Union men of Kentucky, who at the first call responded so handsomely. The influence of that camp at Dick Robinson's, established by Nelson and afterward commanded by Thomas, was such as to maintain the State true to her Union principles, and thus gave a safe base of operations to the armies which afterward moved into Tennessee, Mississippi, and Georgia. I understand that some competent historian is now engaged in collecting authentic historic data to construct a true history of that period. I hope it will be done at once, before too many of the actors have crossed the river never to return. I was much struck by a remark of old Prince Metternich, to the effect that the public archives (of Austria) were voluminous before and after great events, but meagre during their occurrence. I find the same state of facts here—while organizing regiments, brigades, and corps, while troops lie idle in camps and after real battles, the records or archives are voluminous and wordy; but during really great battles, campaigns, and critical movements the records are silent. The reason is, when fighting is close at hand, in progress, and for some time after, the real actors have their hands full of work—no time for the pen, or even words. Then the camp followers and men about the wagon camps to the rear become the historians and rush off their exaggerated accounts to the newspapers, which, being read by honest, good people, create impressions hard, if not impossible, to yield to subsequent truthful statement. For this reason I am always glad to have such men as you, who did a good deal of the fighting, now when there is peace and opportunity, to do some of the talking as well as writing. As always, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN.

MODERN EUROPEAN TACTICS.

THE London Times has been considering in recent numbers modern European tactics, and in its summary, says that the general direction of modern tactical progress embraces the following principles: "Infantry, to avoid unnecessary slaughter, with its consequent demoralization, must resign the idea of attacking in masses or of acting according to the novelist's favorite phrase, 'manœuvring as if on parade' in face of the enemy. As in late wars individual tactical responsibility descended to captains with their companies, so in the future will it rest upon the leaders of even small groups. The front lines of attack will be formed of such groups, now in one formation, now in another, but all getting forward as they best can under the circumstances. Behind them will come small formed bodies, such as companies, which will also move in different formations; and behind these, again still larger bodies. The efforts of all infantries are being directed to the retention together of such units as battalions as long as possible, but all recognize that in the attack of a position a general mixture is only a question of time. The first line will hardly ever carry a position. Wave after wave must be rolled forward, not after the attack fails, but to support and drive it home. The mixture of troops will render pursuit impossible for those who have captured the position. The most that can be done is to pursue the enemy with bullets until other bodies which have not been engaged in the first confusion can come up and carry out the success. Artillery must be used in masses and with extreme boldness, the old tactics of keeping it lumbering in the distance at the moment of the great struggle being quite extinct. The guns will open the action, work boldly and constantly throughout it, pursue the enemy with their fire, or not vigorously to cover the retreat of their own infantry. Cavalry will also be used in masses, and with greater boldness than has lately been seen.

Its use on the actual field of battle will be comparatively rare, except during pursuits and retreats. But beyond the field of battle and in the rear of the enemy, throughout the war, the cavalry divisions are expected to act with greater energy and often dismounted. Though each Continental army favors some slight difference in details, it may be said that the foregoing principles are of general application. They are all dependent on the idea that moral force is superior to physical, and they can only be carried into effect by officers and men trained thoroughly in peace for the exigencies of war."

ACCORDING to the last report of the Adjutant-General the organizations that were mustered out represent a total of 4,132 officers and men, which, deducted from the aggregate of 18,116 reported by the Adjutant-General, Dec. 31, 1880, would leave a total of 13,984 officers and men for the National Guard of New York, as compared with 20,280 reported on the 31st of December, 1879, the last year of the old regime, as we may now call it. The system proposed by Gen. Townsend in his last annual report contemplated "the reduction of the National Guard down to a force of from ten to not more than twelve thousand officers and men." The 3d and 4th Division districts, as organized by this order, are the same as those proposed by Gen. Townsend in his report, except that Madison county is included with those out of which he now forms the 3d Division, and Jefferson with those belonging to the 4th, instead of the reverse. His plan of two brigades to a division is carried out. The 1st Division loses 620 by disbandments, and the 2d and 3d Divisions more. The other losses fall upon the 5th and 6th Divisions.

ON the subject of steel vessels one of the leading manufacturers of steel vessels in this country writes us as follows:

I regard steel as the material of all others best adapted to the construction of hulls of vessels. It possesses greater tensile strength, and at the same time greater ductility than iron plates, and particularly are these differences manifest when steel is compared with the grade of plates of iron used in ships' hulls. Greater strength can be obtained with equal thicknesses, or equal strength with lighter weight, and hence more cargo capacity on steel ships than iron ones. My company have built four steel steam vessels within the past three years and are now commencing another. By steel I mean plates of such low carbonization that the material has little or none of the elements of what is usually known as steel. Either the Siemens-Martin or Bessemer processes produce these. You are welcome to use this information, but please don't mention me, because I don't want to be bored with letters from scores of people who are desirous of airing themselves in print upon the "ship" question, and for whose opinions either printed or otherwise I care nothing. Just now a combination exists among the manufacturers of these plates in this country, and prices are consequently very high and the "protective" tariff applies 100 per cent. on foreign ones, so that steel ships are produced here under difficulties.

THE New York Herald, of Dec. 21, advertising to General Rodenbough's recent paper on "Militia Reform without Legislation," says: "The suggestion that the regulars and militia should co-operate is a good one. The spirit of emulation would do a great deal for the militia if occasionally, even if only on field days, detachments of the two services could be drilled together or in competition. The proficiency in drill of most companies of regulars puts the militia service to shame, although the regulars drill very little. To establish friendly and emulative spirit between militia and regulars requires only the mutual interest of the officers of the two services, and the work is one in which both should gladly lay aside their partialities and prejudices." We are glad to find our recent efforts in the direction indicated so ably seconded.

GENERAL Orders 91 of December 16 from the Headquarters of the Army, calling the attention of officers composing general courts-martial to the necessity for more careful and searching inquiry into the cases of enlisted men brought before them for trial under charges of desertion, shows the efforts being made by those in authority in Washington to secure justice to the enlisted men of the Army. It contains a direction seldom if ever seen in a General Order, being that "a copy will be furnished by the appointing power to every general court-martial convened for the trial of enlisted men or before which they may be brought." Regulations and orders when so numerous are apt to be overlooked or forgotten. Gen. Sherman has done his best to see that the one to which we refer is borne in continual remembrance.

A CORRESPONDENT at a western post makes two suggestions, one of which is that it would materially re-

duce desertions if enlisted men were permitted to purchase their discharge as in the British army, and the second, that better material could be obtained for our regimental bands if musicians were enlisted for one year instead of five, as many good musicians would be willing to try the service for the shorter period but stick at the long term.

REFERRING to our article on Tactics in JOURNAL of Nov. 26, we are informed that the late Gen. Emory Upton completed his revised tactics prior to his death, in his own handwriting, and that they are now in the possession of Brevet Brig.-Gen. A. J. Alexander, lieutenant-colonel 2d U. S. Cavalry, in process of arrangement for publication.

THE establishment of the School of Application at Fort Leavenworth, and the usually large garrison maintained there, makes the post perhaps the principal military social centre in the country. As unmarried officers have principally been detailed for the course of instruction at the school, Fort Leavenworth and vicinity may expect a gay winter.

IF any of our readers can furnish a copy of the old song called "The Flash Frigate," "which in the East Indies bore a great name," a favor will be conferred by sending it to the office of the JOURNAL. One verse goes somewhat as follows:

Now it's "all hands reef topsails and tack ship in one,"
And all in a moment this work must be done;
"Lay aloft there you topmen," as the helm goes down,
"Lower away the topsails," as the main yard flies round.
Then man your head braces, your halys and all,
And hoist away topsails as you "let go and haul."

A CORRESPONDENT writes us in behalf of the enlisted men at military posts acting as company, post or regimental clerks to the effect that they should while on such duty be permitted to wear a distinctive device to distinguish their calling, holding that they are just as much entitled to such an addition to their uniform as are farriers, saddlers, blacksmiths, trumpeters, etc., to wear the distinctive marks of these positions. We can see no good reason for such a change, and are decidedly opposed to the innovation proposed.

THE Board on Magazine Guns had a session at Governor's Island, Monday, Dec. 19. The gun entered by Lieut. Russell was put through the rust test. The Board has adjourned until after the holidays, and will reassemble at the Army Building, New York city, Jan. 3.

A BILL of much interest to Army officers will be found in our Congress record. Section 1244 of the Revised Statutes provides that when any officer of the Army has served 45 years as a commissioned officer, or is 62 years old, he may be retired from active service at the discretion of the President. Mr. Richard W. Townsend's bill provides that in this statute 45 shall be made 50, and that 62 shall be made 70. Section 1253, which refers to section 1244, is to be changed in like manner, and of course both changes are retrograde in principle and spirit. We do not think they will be made.

THE designs, plans, and specifications accompanying the report of the Naval Advisory Board have been turned over to the Bureau of Steam Engineering by the Secretary of the Navy, and plans and specifications for motive power boilers, etc., are now being prepared under the directions of the Engineer-in-Chief, to carry out the recommendation of the Board. Upon the completion of this work the whole matter can be placed before Congress with the assurance of intelligent action in the premises. Great care is being exercised in carrying out the ideas of the Advisory Board so as to forestall adverse criticism.

SOME time ago we referred to experiments initiated at Washington Barracks to determine the rifle to be issued to the Army as the long looked for "Marksman's rifle." A very handsome and efficient rifle, with pistol grip and shortened stock, with superior vernier and wind-gauge sight, superior for military rifles, in some respects to any heretofore made, seemed to fill the requirements. We are informed, however, from Washington, that General Sherman, not being fully satisfied with the rifle, had one specially made by the Ordnance Department identical with the Service rifle in its different parts, and directed General Ayres to have experts at his post to superintend the experiments with it and the one first mentioned. A report has been made conceding the excellent qualities of both rifles, but expressing a preference for the one "with the vernier sight as the most accurate, principally on account of its finer sight."

THE STORY OF THE JEANNETTE.

BELOW we present the despatches concerning the fate of the *Jeannette*, on which we comment elsewhere:

I.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.

The Secretary of State received to-day the following telegram from the Charge d'Affaires of the United States at St. Petersburg:

Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.:

Jeannette crushed in ice June 11, Latitude 77 deg., Longitude 157 deg. Crew embarked three boats. Separated by wind and fog. No. 3, with 11 men, Engineer Melville commanding, reached mouth of Lena Sept. 19. Subsequently, No. 1, with Capt. De Long, Dr. Ambler, 12 men, reached Lena in pitiable condition. Prompt assistance sent. No. 2 not heard from.

HOFFMAN, St. Petersburg.

In response to the above the following was transmitted:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1881.

Hoffman, Charge, St. Petersburg:

Tender hearty thanks of President to all authorities or persons who have in any way been instrumental in assisting unfortunate survivors from *Jeannette* or furnishing information to this Government.

FREELINGHUYSEN, Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, December 21, 1881.

Hoffman, Charge, St. Petersburg:

The President desires you to make provision for immediate relief and return of officers and men of the *Jeannette*. Cable promptly the amount of credit you require and it will be provided by the Secretary of the Navy and myself; also cable what steps can be taken by this government for recovery of the crew of the missing boat.

FREELINGHUYSEN, Secretary of State.

Secretary Frelinghuysen, Washington, D. C.:

Seon Ignatieff. Russian government has ordered active search for second cutter and will furnish all funds necessary to St. Petersburg. For subsequent needs I will draw on you. Have long telegram from Melville. Understand same went through last night to Navy Department. Will communicate with Melville through Ignatieff as regards possible measures to find second cutter.

HOFFMAN.

Mr. James Gordon Bennett telegraphs as follows:

PARIS, December 21, 1881.

Hon. Frederik Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.:

Immediately upon receipt of the first news from my St. Petersburg correspondent about the *Jeannette*, saying that 6,000 rubles were needed, I transferred that sum by telegraph, through the Messrs. Rothschilds, to Gen. Ignatieff at St. Petersburg, with a request to draw on me for any further sums required for the succor and comfort of Capt. De Long and his party. I have to-day received the following telegram from Gen. Ignatieff:

"Have hastened to communicate to your correspondent the news received from Yakoutsk and have given orders to the Governor to take the most energetic measures for the rescue of the shipwrecked crew, together with authority to undertake all necessary expenses, for which I have promised to reimburse him."

"IGNATIEFF."

II.

IAKOUTSK, Dec. 19—6:55 P. M.

The Governor of Iakoutsk writes that on the 14th of September three natives of Hagan Oulouss de Zigane, at Cape Barbay, 140 versts north of Cape Bikoff, discovered a large boat with 11 survivors of the shipwrecked steamer *Jeannette*. They had suffered greatly. The Adjunct of Chief of the District was immediately charged to proceed with a doctor and medicines to succor the survivors at Iakoutsk and to search for the rest of the shipwrecked crew. Five hundred rubles have been assigned to meet the most urgent expenses. The engineer, Melville, has sent three identical telegrams—one addressed to the London office of the *Herald*, one to the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, and the third to the Minister of the United States at St. Petersburg. The poor fellows have lost everything. Engineer Melville says that the *Jeannette* was caught and crushed by the ice on the 23d of June in Latitude 77 deg. North and 157 deg. East Longitude. The survivors of the *Jeannette* left in three boats. Fifty miles from the mouth of the Lena they lost sight of each other during a violent gale and dense fog. Boat No. 3, under command of Engineer Melville, reached the eastern mouth of the Lena on the 29th of September, and was stopped by icebergs near to the hamlet of Idolaciro-Idolatre on the 29th of October. There also arrived at Boloemga boat No. 1, with the sailors, Nindemann and Nords. They brought the information that Lieut. De Long, Dr. Ambler, and a dozen other survivors had landed at the northern mouth of the Lena, where they are at present in a most distressing state, many having their limbs frozen. An expedition was immediately sent from Boloemga to make diligent search for the unfortunates, who are in danger of death. Melville adds that money was urgently needed and should be sent per telegraph to Iakoutsk and Irkutsk. Will you urgently request that 6,000 rubles be transmitted immediately to the Governor of Iakoutsk for researches, assistance, and care, as well as for the return and conveyance of the shipwrecked men to the house of the Governor. There is a surgeon, who will bestow upon them all possible care.

PRESIDENT FREDACHENKO.

Countersigned by Minister of the Interior Obreskoff.

III.

IRKUTSK, December 21—2:05 P. M.

To the Secretary of the Navy:

The steamer *Jeannette* was crushed in the ice June 11, 1881, in latitude 77 degrees 15 minutes north, longitude 157 degrees east. Boats and sleds made a good retreat to fifty miles northwest of the Lena River, where the three boats were separated in a gale. The whale-boat, in charge of Chief Engineer Melville, entered the east mouth of the Lena River on Sept. 17. It was stopped by ice in the river. We found a native village, and as soon as the river closed I put myself in communication with the commandant at Boloemga. On Oct. 29 I heard that the first cutter, containing Lieut. De Long, Dr. Ambler, and twelve others, had landed at the mouth of the Lena. The commandant at Boloemga sent instant relief to the whale-boat party, who are all well. Nindemann and Nords arrived at Boloemga on Oct. 29 for relief for the first cutter, all of whom are in a sad condition and in danger of starvation, and all badly frozen. The commandant at Boloemga has sent native scouts to look for them, and will urge vigorous and constant search until they are found. The second cutter has not yet been heard from. Telegraph money for instant use to Irkutsk and Iakoutsk. The list of people in the boats is as follows:

First Cutter (safe)—Lieut. De Long, Dr. Ambler, Jerome J. Collins, William Nindemann, Louis Nords, Hans Erikson, Henry Knack, Adolf Dressler, Carl Gortz, Walter Lee, Neils Iserson, George Boyd, Alexis, San (probably Ah Sam).

Second Cutter (missing)—Lieut. Chipp, Capt. Dunbar, Alfred Sweetman, Henry Warren, Peter Johnson, Edward Star, Sharvell, Albert Kuehne.

Whale-boat (safe)—Engineer Melville, Lieut. Danenhauer, Jack Cole, James Bartlett, Raymond Newcomb, Herbert Leach, George Lauterbach, Henry Wilson, Manson, Iniquin Long.

MELVILLE, Eng.

The name in the despatch, Iniquin Long, probably means Toney Siney, Indian, although only 25 are accredited of the 26, shown in the crew list. "Alexis San" may be two persons.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1881.

Engineer Melville, U. S. N., Irkutsk:

Omit no effort, spare no expense in securing safety of men in second cutter. Let the sick and the frozen of those already rescued have every attention, and as soon as practicable have them transported to milder climate. Department will supply necessary funds.

HUNT, Secretary.

We append a list of the crew of the *Jeannette* sent from St. Petersburg Aug. 23, 1879:

Bartlett, Joseph H., fireman.
Boyd, George W., 2d class fireman.
Cole, John, seaman.
Collins, J. J., seaman.
Dressler, Adolf, seaman.
Dunbar, Wm., seaman.
Erichsen, H. H., seaman.
Gortz, C. A., seaman.
Iverson, Nelse, coal heaver.
Johnson, P. E., seaman.
Kaack, H. H., seaman.
Kuehne, A. G., seaman.
Lauterbach, John, coal heaver.
Leach, H. W., seaman.
Lee, Walter, machinist.
Manson, F. E., seaman.
Newcomb, R. L., seaman.
Nondemann, Wm. F. C., seaman.
Nords, L. P., seaman.
Sam, Ah., seaman.
Shewell, W., coal heaver.
Sing, Charles Tony, seaman.
Star, Ed., seaman.
Sweetman, Alfred, seaman.
Warren, H. D., seaman.
Wilson, Henry, seaman.
Sing Ah died at St. Michaels Aug. 21, 1879.

NEW SYSTEM OF AIMING AND SIGHTING.—The *United Service Gazette*, describing a system of aiming and sighting devised by a Mr. Morris, says: "All musketry instructors know what dreary work aiming drill is, and how it is hated by both officers and men; indeed, it may be said to be given as a punishment to bad shots. Moreover, as at present practiced, it is very nearly useless, because it does not test a man's aim at the moment of firing. Mr. Morris's system teaches the recruit the why and wherefore of raising the sight, and makes him dexterous in its manipulation. Mr. Morris's apparatus consists of a most accurately made rifled tube, which extends the whole length of the rifle. This tube is fixed in the rifle in such a way that the loading and extracting are precisely the same as with the service ammunition. A tiny cartridge is fired at a paper target, with lines crossing it thus:

1400 Yds.	
.....
1300	.....
.....
1200	.....
.....
1100	.....
.....
1000	.....
.....
900	.....
.....
800	.....
.....
700	.....
.....
600	.....
.....
500	.....
.....
400	.....
.....
300	.....
.....
200	.....
.....
100	.....
.....

"This target has a small spot at the bottom, which is the point to be aimed at. If a paper target is placed in the line of fire, and the soldier is made to aim at one given spot on this target, it is evident that the bullets will pass through the paper at places corresponding to the elevation of the rifle. When he puts up his sight, say to 500 yards, and aims over it to the spot at the bottom of the target, he unconsciously raises the muzzle of the rifle, and of course the bullet hits the target at a place higher than when he was

aiming at the same spot with the sight fixed for 100 yards. The places where the bullets should hit are shown on Mr. Morris's target by the horizontal lines, and the lateral deviation is shown by divisions marked on the horizontal lines. Mr. Morris's plan enables every man to use his own rifle in the barrack room or yard, at distances varying from ten yards to one hundred. The cost of the introduction of this system of musketry practice is so small, that every battalion of the British army could, it is estimated, be supplied with twenty of Mr. Morris's tubes for less than £3,000. The price of the ammunition is very low, as the cartridge cases and lead are all recovered. Further, if the Government supplied this ammunition to the men at one shilling per hundred rounds, many men would buy it, as matches can be shot on Mr. Morris's system exactly the same as at the regular target. Mr. Morris's invention has met with a very favorable reception at the Horse Guards, and it is hoped that this most useful invention will soon be in general use in the British army and navy."

AN ENGLISH OPINION OF OUR ARMY.

THE *London Standard* improves the occasion of General Sherman's annual report to consider the peculiarities of our Army, which, as it notes, is little studied in England; less, indeed, than by any other European nation. Yet, it says: "It has a system of its own, which is now under process of development, and General Sherman's report upon it, which has just been issued, comes opportunely at a moment when the United States are examining their military resources, transforming their artillery and voting a large increase for their Navy, which must be made effective if they persist in fighting for the propagation of the Monroe doctrine in South America." Speaking of the Regular Army as a school for training officers for the volunteer force in case of war, the *Standard* says: "In the great war of secession the Regular Army was divided between the two combatants, and it is a fact worth remembering that almost all the generals who showed high ability had served with the Regulars and learned by that apprenticeship the lessons which they afterwards put in practice. But for them there would have been little worth notice in the war." Referring to General Sherman's recommendation for an increase in the strength of companies, it says: "This would be an increase of a fifth of its strength, and it will be very interesting to see how his propositions are received by Congress. Increase of establishments is, it would appear, not to be confined to the Old World. Even the United States, with not a single civilized enemy, have military reformers who ask for more men." Speaking of General Sherman's recommendation for a mixed board on coast defenses, the *Standard* says: "The moment for the investigation is propitious. Not only have the old smooth bores disappeared which formed the mainstay of American ordnance, but one of those leaps by which science generally advances has been made within the last five years in the construction of European artillery. Forts must now be designed to withstand the impact of heavy steel shells delivered with a velocity of 2,000 feet per second; and very few of the American forts have been designed on such a supposition. The United States have not been fortunate in their artillery. Their first essays in rifled guns were unsatisfactory, and a large number of such pieces burst with destructive effect during the war. Enormous smooth bores were then produced, but competitive trials at Shoeburyness and other places convinced American artillerymen that they must follow the lead of Europe. They have converted a considerable number of pieces on the Palliser system, but they have nothing yet which can compete in combined lightness and power with the Armstrong or Krupp guns of the new system."

Continuing, the *Standard* says: "After the increase of men the most important recommendations of Gen. Sherman are on the subject of military education. Keeping steadily in mind the principle that the Army of the United States must be small, but so highly trained as to be capable of leavening a great mass of volunteers in war, he has turned his attention both to the organization of West Point, and to the creation of a new 'School of Application.' With regard to West Point, there has been a rather interesting controversy as to the branch of the service from which the Superintendent of that Military Academy should come. The Board of Visitors have recommended that he should be an engineer officer; but Gen. Sherman is at issue with them on this point. He says, with a great deal of truth, that 'West Point is intended to make soldiers, not professional engineers, and the word soldier embraces everything in war.' He does not undervalue the engineers in their place, but thinks that in war they favor the defensive too much, whereas the infantry, cavalry, and artillery must go in and do the fighting."

"In giving this opinion Gen. Sherman shows not only a knowledge of war, but of human nature. The tactics of the present day are eminently aggressive, and we are bound to say that in this and other countries the engineer service is rather too fond of the defensive. There is also a danger in making a Military College merely a School of Engineering. In a country like America—and the same may be said of Russia—there is room in civil life for a vast number of engineers, and it is only too common for young men to gain their engineering knowledge under military professors and then forsake the Army, and throw their energy into money making. But whether West Point is or is not to be tinged strongly with the flavor of engineering, Gen. Sherman does not consider that the theoretical knowledge acquired by a young man before gaining his commission, nor even that combined with regimental duty, is sufficient to make a soldier of him in the true sense. Scattered as the American Army is over such enormous tracts of country, there can be for it neither large camps of instruction nor autumn manoeuvres. Gen. Sherman proposes to make the best of the circumstances by establishing a 'School of Application.' This has already been done in part, and the school is to be completely ready by the beginning of next year. It will consist of one company of artillery, four companies of infantry, and four of cavalry, and it is intended that one officer

from each regiment in the service shall be always present at the school undergoing a course of training, which will last for two years. This little garrison may seem small when compared with the European camps of exercise, but the military art is based upon principles which apply equally to large and small bodies. If a student is thoroughly master of the art of managing a small force of the three arms, he will have little difficulty in applying his knowledge to the brigade, the Army Corps, or even an Army of 200,000 men. In this the Americans have undoubtedly caught the right idea. It is one which we have repeatedly urged upon the English public, and if carried into practice here or elsewhere will make all the difference between a skilled and unskilled army. Thus trained, Gen. Sherman considers that the Army will be thoroughly prepared even for sudden war; and that 'the Regulars will be better able to impart to the vast mass of volunteers all the knowledge of the art of war which is possessed by the most skillful nations of the earth.' Leaving aside the slight tone of exaggeration, there can be no doubt that Gen. Sherman is right in principle."

CONGRESS—SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

Senate Military Committee.—Messrs. Logan (chairman), Cameron of Pennsylvania, Harrison, Sewell, Hawley, Cockrell, Maxey, Grover, and Hampton.
Senate Naval Committee.—Messrs. Cameron of Pennsylvania, (chairman), Anthony, Rollins, Miller of California, Mahone, McPherson, Jones of Florida, Vance, and Farley.
House Military Committee.—Henderson, chairman; McCook, Bayne, Steele, Davis (Ill.), Spaulding, Spooner, Sparks, Upson, Bragg, Wheeler, Maginnis.
House Naval Committee.—Harris (Mass.), chairman; Robeson, Harmer, Thomas, Watson, Ketcham, Deszendorf, Morse, Davidson, Talbott, and Harris (N. J.).

Congress adjourned on Wednesday of this week over the holidays, and will reassemble on Thursday, the 5th of January.

In the Senate the joint resolution No. 6, authorizing Lieut.-Commander Chas. Dwight Sigbee, U. S. N., to accept a decoration from the Emperor of Germany, has been reported upon adversely by the Committee on Foreign Relations, to which it was referred and indefinitely postponed. Wednesday this vote was reconsidered by the Senate on motion of Mr. Pendleton, and the resolution referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Communications have been received by the Senate from the Secretary of War, recommending that the Executive Departments be furnished with 2,000 copies of the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion; that Mr. Sawyer be paid a sum sufficient to reimburse him for his expenses in perfecting his invention of improved canister; also transmitting reports by Colonel Newton, Lieut.-Col. Warren, Majors J. A. Smith, Wilson, Mansfield, Roberts, and McFarland, and Captains Damrell and Handbury, Corps of Engineers.

The following resolution submitted by Mr. McPherson was agreed to by the Senate:

Resolved, That the recommendations contained in the President's message in favor of a thorough rehabilitation of the Navy be, and they are hereby, referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. McPherson also presented from the Naval Committee a long and interesting report in favor of S. 12 relating to the Marine Corps. This report we publish in full in another column. The bill to retire General Grant, as reported by the Senate Military Committee, was amended to read as follows: "That in recognition of the eminent services of Ulysses S. Grant, late General of the Army, the President be, and hereby is, authorized to nominate and, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint him to the Army, with the rank and grade of general, to be placed on the retired list with pay accordingly. All laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are suspended for this purpose only."

The bill as introduced read with the rank and full pay of General of the Army. Mr. Maxey of the Military Committee said: "The report on the bill in relation to placing Gen. Grant on the retired list, I beg to say, was not unanimous, and I reserve the right to take such action thereafter on the bill as I shall deem proper."

Senator Pendleton presented a memorial from the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce in favor of putting the Signal Service on an established footing as a bureau of the War Department; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The following bills relating to the services were presented to the Senate and referred to the appropriate committees:

BILLS REFERRED TO THE SENATE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

S. 345, by Mr. Plumb, provides that no regimental or company officer shall be detached from duty with his regiment or company for more than three years consecutively, and any officer heretofore or hereafter detailed who shall be returned to duty with his company or regiment under the provision of this bill shall not be again detailed except temporarily, and not then for a period of more than sixty days, until after the expiration of three years from his return to his company or regiment.

S. 427 for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of bark *Torrent*. (This bill was transferred from the Naval Committee by request of that committee.)

S. 531, by Mr. Morrill (by request), for the relief of Frank A. Page, authorizes the President to appoint him "to a second lieutenantancy in the Army, and place him on the retired list: *Provided*, however, That no pay, compensation, or allowance shall be given to said Frank A. Page for the period he was out of the service."

S. 542, by Mr. Maxey, providing "That the retirement as a first lieutenant on April 4, 1879, for disability on account of wounds received in battle, of Brovet Major Charles C. Oreson, United States Army, be, and the same is hereby, so amended that the said Oreson shall be placed on the retired list as a major, he having been wounded when holding the rank of major and in command of a regiment when receiving the wounds: *Provided*, That no pay or allowances of any kind greater than those now received by the said Charles C. Oreson be allowed him prior to the passage of this act."

S. 556, by Mr. Plumb, granting right of way through Fort Bliss Military Reservation to Rio Grande and El Paso R.R.

S. 557, by Mr. Plumb, providing that in view of the fact of William C. Hemphill, late a captain in the 4th regiment of United States Cavalry, having faithfully served his country and the Government for more than twenty-six years in the Army of the United States, the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to restore or reinstate the said William C. Hemphill to his former rank and date of captain in the Army, namely, March 17, 1876, and to place him upon the retired list of the Army with his previous grade of captain, with the pay and emoluments pertaining to a captain of cavalry placed upon the retired list of the Army, to date from November 1, 1881.

S. 588, by Mr. Plumb, regulating the employment of civilian clerks for disbursing officers of the Army provides that the Secretary of War be authorized to make provision for civilian clerks to all disbursing officers of the Army, in such numbers only as in his judgment the public interest may demand, at a compensation to be regulated according to the efficiency of the clerk and the circumstances and importance of his duties: *Provided*, That the compensation shall in no case exceed \$1,500 per annum, and that no disbursing officer shall be allowed more than one clerk at this maximum rate: *And provided further*, That no clerk shall be employed under authority of this act where the services of a suitable enlisted man are available for the purpose.

S. 603, by Mr. Miller, for the relief of the heirs of Hyacinth Robert Aguel, deceased, giving them compensation for the construction at his own expense of Prof. Aguel's quarters, destroyed by fire last year at West Point.

S. 646, by Mr. Slater, for the relief of Capt. Evan Miles. Gives him not to exceed \$3,196, for property lost by the fire at Vancouver Barracks, March 8, 1880.

S. 650, by Mr. Miller, to release the right of way across the Pittsburgh reservation to the Chateaugay R.R.

S. 667, by Mr. Brown, authorizes the sale of Savannah, Ga., Barracks.

BILLS REFERRED TO THE SENATE NAVAL COMMITTEE.

S. 132, by Mr. Saulsbury, to correct an error in section 1583, R. S., in reference to the pay of retired officers of the Navy, provides that section 1583, title 15, chapter 8, of the Revised Statutes, be, and the same is hereby, from date of error, amended so as to read as follows: "Sec. 1583. The pay of all officers of the Navy who have been retired after forty-five years' service after reaching the age of sixty years, or who have been or may be retired after forty years' service, upon their own application to the President, or on their attaining the age of sixty-two years, or on account of incapacity resulting from long and faithful service, from wounds or injuries received in the line of duty, or from sickness or exposure therein, shall, when not on active duty be equal to seventy-five per centum of the sea pay provided by this chapter for the grade or rank which they held, respectively, at the time of their retirement. The pay of all other officers on the retired list shall, when not on active duty, be equal to one-half the highest pay provided by this chapter for the grade or rank held by them, respectively, at time of their retirement."

S. 339, by Mr. Voorhees, providing for the pay of Rear Admiral Roger N. Stembel. Gives him the pay and compensation of Rear-Admiral retired, from and after June 5, 1874, that being the date of his promotion to the retired list as Rear-Admiral.

S. 537, 538, and 539, by Mr. Jones, provide (S. 537) that in conformity with and to carry into effect the recommendations and conclusions of the board of admirals organized pursuant to the joint resolution for the relief of Bushrod B. Taylor and other officers of the Navy, approved February 5, 1879, the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to restore Commander Henry Glass to his original relative position on the Navy-list next below Commander Edwin M. Sheppard. (S. 538) to restore Commander James H. Sands to his original relative position on the Navy-list, next below Commander Charles McGregor. (S. 539) Lieutenant Commander Charles D. Sigbee to his original relative position on the Navy-list, next below Commander Robley D. Evans.

S. 625, by Mr. Voorhees, to amend sec. 1556, R. S., giving longevity pay to certain officers of the Navy, provides that the passed assistant engineers, passed assistant surgeons, and passed assistant paymasters of the Navy shall receive during the third five years after the date from which they commenced to receive pay as passed (first) assistants, when at sea, \$2,450; on shore duty, \$2,250; on leave or waiting orders, \$1,900; during and after the fourth five years from such date, when at sea, \$2,700; on shore duty, \$2,350; on leave or waiting orders, \$1,950. And section 1556 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended accordingly.

S. 626, by Mr. Voorhees, for relief of Commander W. Gibson, provides for his appointment on the active list of the Navy to his original position on the active list, next after Commodore Edward Y. McCauley, the complement of the grade of Commodore being hereby enlarged for the purpose of this act: *Provided*, That no claim for arrearages of pay shall, accrue by reason of promotion under the provisions of this act.

S. 653, by Mr. Harris, to provide for a construction fund for the Navy. It provides for the sale of old and condemned vessels and material, and the establishment out of the proceeds of a permanent construction fund. No vessel shall be finished or repaired unless a board shall otherwise recommend, where the cost of completion or repairs exceeds forty per cent. of the cost of a new vessel. The expenditure from the construction fund is limited to \$1,000,000 a year, and the Secretary of the Navy may invite the submission of models, plans and specifications for naval vessels, their engines, machinery and armament, from any and all sources, and may determine what sum shall be paid from the fund to the competitors whose plans are adopted.

A petition was referred to the Senate Military Committee from Wm. C. Hemphill, late captain 4th Cav., praying for restoration to his former rank; also various petitions asking for changes and modifications in the Militia laws.

S. Res. No. 7, relating to the sloop *Marion* and frigate *United States*, was transferred from the Naval Committee to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to settle by arbitration the question of the liability of the United States for damages to the Norwegian bark *Atlantis* by collision with the *Vandalia* (S. 576) was referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. 526, by Mr. Anthony, for the relief of Louisa Bainbridge Hoff, was referred to the Committee on Pensions.

S. 638, by Mr. Rollins, to refer the claims of the captors of the ram *Albatross* to the Committee on Claims was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The bill regulating the appointment and compensation of paymasters' clerks in the Army, and the papers in the case of Mr. Maynadier, were referred from the

files to the Military Committee of the Senate, there being no adverse report.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker of the House, Mr. Keifer, ended the suspension of its members on Wednesday by the announcement of the standing committees. Those in which our readers are chiefly interested are organized as follows:

Military Affairs.—Henderson, chairman; McCook, Bayne, Steele, Davis (Ill.), Spaulding, Spooner, Sparks, Upson, Bragg, Wheeler, Maginnis.

Naval Affairs.—Harris (Mass.), chairman; Robeson, Harmer, Thomas, Watson, Ketcham, Deszendorf, Morse, Davidson, Talbott and Harris (N. J.).

Militia.—Strait, chairman; Bayne, Hawk, Morey, Guenther, Valentine, Thompson (Ky.), Frost, Mosgrove, Jones (Ark.).

Expenditures in the War Department.—Briggs, chairman; Miles, Steele, Marsh, Blackburn, Jones (Texas), Sparks.

Expenditures in the Navy Department.—Robeson, chairman; Harris (Mass.), Harmer, O'Neill, Morse, Phelps, Turner (Ky.).

BILLS REFERRED TO THE HOUSE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

H. R. 121, by Mr. Speer, to exempt the officers and soldiers of the Regular Army of the United States from certain military exercises on the Sabbath day: *Be it enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act it shall be, in time of peace, unlawful for any officer of the U. S. Army to order inspections, dress parades, band concerts, or other military exercises, except necessary guard duty and duty for sanitary purposes, with the troops under his command on the Sabbath day.

H. R. 182, by Mr. Lewis, allows Major G. W. Candee, paymaster U. S. A., \$2,650 stolen from him at Fort Arbuckle, I. T., in 1869.

H. R. 206, by Mr. Townsend, to amend section 1244, R. S., relating to the retirement of Army officers, by striking out in the first line thereof the word "forty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "fifty," and by striking out in the second line thereof the word "sixty-two" and inserting the word "seventy," so that said section shall hereafter read as follows: "When any officer has served fifty years as a commissioned officer, or is seventy years old, he may be retired from active service at the discretion of the President;" and to amend section 1253, R. S., by striking out in the third line the word "forty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "fifty," and by striking out the word "sixty-two" and inserting the word "seventy."

H. R. 208—Mr. Townsend introduced the following bill: To amend section 1228, R. S., relating to the pay and allowance of officers of the Army and Navy who have been dismissed and afterward restored to the service: *Be it enacted*, That section 1228 of the Revised Statutes be, and the same is hereby, amended as follows: After the word "Army," where it occurs in said section, add the words "and Navy;" and after the word "military," where it occurs in said section, insert the words "or naval;" and by adding after the last word in said section the following: "And in no case where such officer of the Army or Navy has been restored to the military or naval service shall he receive any pay or allowance whatever from the time of such dismissal by the sentence of a General Court-martial until from and after the date of such reappointment, unless such pay or allowance is specifically authorized and provided for in each case by an act of Congress."

H. R. 241, by Mr. Calkins, and H. R. 271, by Mr. Browne, authorize the appointment of Robert G. Smithers as captain 10th Cavalry, to act from Dec. 20, 1877, that being the date when he, as senior 1st lieutenant and adjutant of his regiment, according to the records of the A. G. O., should have been promoted to the vacancy caused by the dismissal of Capt. Thomas Little, 10th U. S. Cavalry.

H. R. 240, by Mr. Calkins, to amend section 1190, R. S., as follows: In lieu of the fixed salary as therein provided, clerks to paymasters in the U. S. Army shall be classified, and their compensation regulated in the same manner as civilian employees in the other staff departments of the Army.

H. R. 269, by Mr. Browne, give Major Jacob E. Burbank, late paymaster U. S. A., credits for overpayments and losses to the amount of \$2,000.

H. R. 378, by Mr. Anderson, allows Lieut. John A. Payne, 19th Inf., not to exceed \$850, and H. R. 379, by Mr. Anderson, gives Capt. W. J. Lyster not to exceed \$677 value of effects lost by fire at Camp Supply, I. T., July 1, 1877.

H. R. 413, by Mr. Haskell, "to fix the rank of certain retired officers of the Army," enacts that any lieutenant of the Army retired from active service on account of the loss of a leg or an arm from wounds received in line of duty, and who has been in the military service of the United States fifteen years, shall have, upon the retired list, the rank of captain in the arm or department of the service in which such loss of leg or arm was incurred, and shall receive the retired pay of said grade.

H. R. 419, by Mr. Haskell, extends the time for filing claims for horses and equipments lost two years from the passage of the bill, claims already filed to be deemed to have been filed in due time.

H. R. 497, by Mr. Knott, gives 1st Lieut. Frank P. Gross, U. S. Army, not to exceed \$2,000 for losses by the burning of his quarters at Fort Clark, Texas, April 19, 1869.

H. R. 748, by Mr. Lord, for the relief of Walter F. Halleck, retired officer of the Army.

H. R. 910, by Mr. Clardy, for relief of D. T. Kirby. Authorizes his appointment as a captain. A corresponding bill has been favorably reported upon by the Senate Committee.

H. R. 963, for the relief of Eugene Wells by his reappointment to the rank of 2d lieutenant in the artillery service of the U. S. Wells was dismissed by sentence G. C.-M., Oct. 13, 1877, and asks to be restored to the service.

H. R. 1002, by Mr. Valentine, to place G. T. A. Nixon on the retired list.

H. R. 1045, by Mr. Harris, for the relief of W. H. Gill; authorize his appointment as a military storekeeper.

H. R. 1065, by Mr. McCook, to donate bronze cannon to the Society of the Army of the Cumberland for a statue of Garfield.

H. R. 1069, by Mr. McCook, to give to Dr. John B. Reed \$75,000 for the use of his projectile.

H. R. 1114, by Mr. Hammond, for the relief of Brig.-Gen. B. Alvord, U. S. A.

H. R. 1179, by Mr. Richardson, to place Bvt. Major-Gen. W. W. Averill on the retired list.

H. R. 1184, by Mr. Hancock, for the relief of W. W. Webb, late Captain and Bvt. Major, U. S. A. (resigned in 1873).

H. R. 1303, by Mr. Butterworth, to amend sec. 1204 R. S. chap. 2, title 14, relating to the Army.

H. R. 1394, by Mr. Harmer, for the relief of Mark Walker (and 1402 by Mr. O'Neill). Walker, who was dismissed May 13, 1878, seeks to be restored.

H. R. 1401, by Mr. O'Neill, for the relief of Carillo Boyd, wholly retired. Places him on the retired list as captain.

H. R. 1416, by Mr. O'Neill (for Mr. Bingham), removing a discrimination against the Corps of Judge Advocates of the Army.

H. R. 1433, by Mr. Belts Hoover, for the relief of Joseph Conrad, of Missouri.

H. R. 1465, by Mr. Brumm, for the relief of Edward H. Leib.

H. R. 1474, by Mr. Errett, to authorize a street to be opened through the Pittsburgh Arsenal.

H. R. 1476, by Mr. Errett, to increase the efficiency of the Infantry branch of the Army.

H. R. 1478, by Mr. Errett, to provide for the better care and protection of Q. M. supplies.

H. R. 1479, by Mr. Errett, to authorize the restoration and retirement of Thos. H. Carpenter, late Captain 17th U. S. Infantry.

H. R. 1480, by Mr. Errett, for the relief of 2d Lieut. E. E. Dravo, 6th U. S. Infantry.

H. R. 1505, by Mr. Ward, to provide for an Assistant Secretary of War.

H. R. 1516, by Mr. Bayne, to erect a statue to the late Gen. Custer, U. S. A.

H. R. 1541, by Mr. Jadwin, to restore Chas. N. Warner to his former rank and position in the Army. Warner was mustered out as 1st Lieut. artillery, Jan. 1, 1871.

H. R. 1570, by Mr. Pettibone, for the relief of Capt. R. F. Bernard, 1st Cav.

H. R. 1571, by Mr. Pettibone, to pay Dr. Daniel M. Appel, U. S. A., for services at the Mesclero Agency.

H. R. 1573, by Mr. Pettibone, in relation to the retirement of officers of the Army, provides that all General officers and officers of the different staff corps of the Army shall be retired from active service when they have served 45 years, and that all officers of the line shall be retired when they have reached the age of 60 years. The bill further provides that when General and staff officers who have not served 45 years and line officers who have not reached the age of 60 are unable properly to perform their duties, they shall be reported by the General of the Army to the President, who will convene a board of five officers, one of whom is to be a medical officer, to report the facts of the case with recommendations. Should the board report the disability to be the result of services in the line of duty, the officer is to be placed on the retired list; otherwise he will be retired on one year's pay.

H. R. 1612, by Mr. Walthorne, to place Wm. P. Chambliss, late Major 4th Cav., on the retired list.

H. R. 1691, by Mr. Upson, to restore Thos. Little to the rank of Captain. Little was dismissed Dec. 20, 1877.

H. R. 1693, by Mr. Upson, to place Chas. C. Cresson on the retired list, with the rank of Major.

H. R. 1700, by Mr. Upson, for the relief of Paymaster C. M. Terrell, U. S. A.

H. R. 1712, by Mr. Upson, for the relief of Co. B, 20th U. S. Infantry, for losses by fire at Fort Ripley, Jan. 14, 1877.

H. R. 1726, by Tyler, authorizing the restoration to the Army of Frank A. Page as 2d lieutenant, retired. Was dismissed May 27, 1874.

H. R. 1775, by Mr. Paul, to authorize the use of lands at Fortress Monroe for a hotel.

H. R. 1835, by Mr. Wilson (by request), for the relief of 1st Lieutenant Redmond Tully, 25th U. S. Infantry.

H. R. 1895, by Mr. Pettigrew, vacating the portion of the Fort Randall reservation lying East of the Missouri River.

H. R. 1905, by Mr. Ainslie, providing for a military post in Lemhi Valley, Idaho.

H. R. 1914, by Mr. Maginnis, to restore Fort Benton reservation to the public domain.

H. R. 1918, by Mr. Maginnis, for the relief of Assistant Surgeon A. C. Girard and Major D. H. Brotherton, U. S. A.

H. R. 1924, by Mr. Brentz, to amend Sec. 1860, R. S., so as to allow retired Army officers to hold civil offices in the Territories.

H. R. 2020, by Mr. Anderson, for the relief of W. O. Hemphill, late captain 4th U. S. Cavalry.

A joint resolution (H. R. No. 35), by Mr. Neal, construing the act of Congress entitled "An act further to regulate and provide for the enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," approved July 4, 1864.

BILLS REFERRED TO THE HOUSE NAVAL COMMITTEE.

H. R. 26, by Mr. Harris, relating to color blindness and visual acuteness. (This was printed *in extenso* in the *Congressional Record*, from which we quoted last week.) It appropriates \$5,000 to send a suitable person as delegate to an international congress and convention on this subject.

H. R. 145, Mr. Thomas, authorizes the payment of prize money to the captors of steamboat *New Era*, Number Five, and cargo, the appraisement of her value to be made by a board of three Army officers.

H. R. 149, Mr. Thomas, "giving certain naval officers longevity pay and authorizing them to be placed on the retired list upon certain conditions." Same as S. 331, published last week, placing the 41 mates upon the footing of warrant officers and authorizing their retirement.

H. R. 151, Mr. Thomas, gives David S. Booth \$1,781.89 for bounty as assistant surgeon on board ram *Queen of the West* for capture of certain vessels.

H. R. 156, Mr. Thomas, gives John P. Grogan \$422.24 for expenses incurred in obeying the order of Admiral Strong.

H. R. 846, by Mr. Dunnell, for the relief of retired officers of the Navy (see S. 131, published Dec. 10, p. 412.)

H. R. 918, by Mr. Clardy (by request), for relief of Thos. G. Corbin. Restores him to the active list of the Navy.

H. R. 1092, by Mr. Bliss, regulating the rank and pay of fleet marine officer, U. S. N.

H. R. 1093, by Mr. Bliss, to regulate and define the rank of the staff of the Marine Corps (see S. 15, published Dec. 10, p. 412.)

H. R. 1216, by Mr. Vance (for Mr. Stevens), to regulate the promotion of midshipmen and cadet engineers, and establish the grade of sub-assistant engineer in the Navy (see S. 65, published Dec. 10, p. 412.)

H. R. 1384, by Mr. Harmer, for the erection of a dry dock at League Island Navy-yard.

H. R. 1385, by Mr. Harmer, to amend section 1556 R. S., giving longevity pay to certain officers of the Navy.

H. R. 1533, by Mr. Mosgrove, to promote the efficiency of the corps of chaplains, U. S. N. (see S. 534, published Dec. 17, p. 437.)

H. R. 1840, by Mr. Jadwin, authorizing reinstatement of Chas. W. Tracy on the active list of the Navy.

H. R. 1667, by Mr. Jones, to restore George H. Stephens to his relative rank in the Navy.

H. R. 1742, by Mr. Dezendorf, to authorize the purchase of a lot opposite the Gosport Navy-yard.

H. R. 1776, by Mr. Paul, for the relief of Medical Director John Thornley, U. S. N.

Joint Resolution (H. R. 35), by Mr. Harmer, conferring the rank of surgeon on the retired list of the Navy of the United States on Passed Asst. Surg. Francis V. Greene, for highly meritorious services during the prevalence of yellow fever on board of the United States steamer *Lancaster* in 1875.

Joint Resolution (H. R. 57), by Mr. Brentz, for the appointment of a commission to select a site on the northwest coast for a Navy-yard.

Bills were referred to the Committee of Claims (H. R. 1961), for the relief of Major W. R. King, and (H. R. 1178), for Lieut.-Col. James C. Duane, Corps of Engi-

neers, U. S. A.; H. R. 1989, for relief of Fred. H. E. Ebstein, 1st Inf.; Capt. Evan Miles, 21st Inf., and Lieut.-Col. W. W. Burns, A. C. G. S., U. S. Army.

Mr. Butterworth submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the condition of the United States Signal Service and report to the House what other or additional legislation, if any, is necessary to render said service more effective. This was referred to the Committee on Commerce, and also the following offered by Mr. King:

Whereas, In pursuance of the recommendation of Hon. Nathan Goff, Jr., Secretary of the Navy, in a report made by him to the President under date of June 19, 1881, and transmitted by the President, in a special message, to the House of Representatives dated February 2, 1881, and after due investigation Congress, by act of March 3, 1881, appropriated the sum of \$200,000 "to enable the Secretary of the Navy to establish at the Isthmus of Panama naval stations and depots of coal for the supply of steamships of war, to be available as soon as suitable arrangements can be made to the proposed end; and

Whereas, The Secretary of the Navy has failed to carry out the intention of Congress as expressed in the act aforesaid, and in his annual report to the President states that "from reports made to the Department from reliable sources since the passage of the appropriation and before I am not satisfied the lands and harbors known as the Chiriqui grant are the best adapted for coal stations;" therefore

Be it resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to furnish this House with all reports, communications, maps, and other information in the Navy Department relative to this subject; and that he be further directed to communicate to this House "the other reasons" which according to the language of his report, he states induced him to decline to treat for the lands offered by Mr. Ambrose W. Thompson and the corporation in whose name he acts, which claims to be the owner of the grounds upon which said harbors are located.

Mr. Brents presented a memorial of the Legislative Assembly of Washington Territory relative to retired Army officers holding civil office in the Territories; referred to the Committee on the Territories. A bill has been introduced authorizing them to hold such offices.

Mr. Hawk (by request) introduced a bill (H. R. No. 1972) for the protection of the person of the President of the United States; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Belts Hoover also introduced a bill (H. R. No. 1439) to prevent and punish the sale or furnishing of fire-arms or fixed ammunition to uncivilized Indians; referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. Cox introduced a bill (H. R. No. 1053) in relation to the Japanese indemnity fund; referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Valentine introduced a bill (H. R. No. 995) to establish an agricultural school in the State of Nebraska for the education of Indians; referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H. R. 19, by Mr. Washburn, to abolish Fort Abercrombie military reservation, was referred to the Committee on Public Lands. Among the innumerable bills introduced granting pensions are those in favor of the widow of Admiral Hoff (H. R. 1618), the widow of Gen. Merchant (H. R. 1436), the widow of Commodore Paulding (H. R. 1136), the widow and heirs of Lieut. Comdr. Nields (H. R. 1504), the father of Gen. Custer (H. R. 774), and the widow of the late Gen. Revere (H. R. 752).

H. R. 915, 996, 1407, 1411, and 1959 are general pension bills. Mr. Wilson (by request) presented a joint resolution (H. R. 54) to authorize Lieut. Henry H. Lemly, of the United States, to accept a position under the Government of the United States of Colombia.

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Mr. Haseltine introduced a bill (H. R. 970) for the relief of the officers of State militia acting under the orders of officers of the United States. Referred to the Committee on the Militia.

The following resolutions were adopted by the House: Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to inform the House what, if any, additional works are necessary on the Saint Mary's River and the Saint Mary's Falls Canal, Michigan, to complete the improvement thereof in a manner to serve the interests of the commerce of the Northern lakes, and that he state the reasons why such additional works, if any, are necessary, and also submit an estimate of the cost of the same.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he hereby is, directed to transmit to this House all reports, communications, maps, and other information in the Navy Department relating to the subject of locating and establishing naval stations and depots at the Isthmus of Panama, for which Congress appropriated the sum of \$200,000; and that he be further directed to communicate "the other" reasons referred to in his annual report for his failure to carry out the intention of Congress, as expressed in the act of March 3, 1881, making the appropriation aforesaid.

A PRIVATE letter received in Washington on Thursday from South America states that rumors are rife there that the United States steamer *Alaska* had been fired into and struck twice, damaging her so seriously that she had to return to Callao for repairs. We have no confirmation of the report.

THE question as to the superintendency of the Coast and Geodetic Survey has been settled by the appointment of Prof. Hilyard; an excellent selection.

THE Army Board on Heavy Ordnance and Seacoast Defences, appointed by the Secretary of War, met Dec. 15 at the South Boston Ironworks to examine Dr. J. H. McLean's improvements in heavy artillery.

LIEUT. Francis D. Backer, 11th Inf., U. S. A., arrived at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., Dec. 19, from the East.

THE residence of Lieut. W. McCarty Little, U. S. N., at Newport, R. I., destroyed by fire a short time ago, is to be rebuilt at once.

DR. J. P. Wright, Surgeon U. S. A., was reported at the Southern, and Lieut. W. N. Hughes, U. S. A., at the Planters' Hotel, St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20.

LIEUT. Joseph Garrard, 4th U. S. Art., passed through New London Dec. 23 on a short Christmas leave from Fort Trumbull.

MILITARY SERVICE INSTITUTION.

SELDOM have the rooms of the Military Service Institution, at Governor's Island, contained a more distinguished and interested audience than that on Saturday afternoon, December 17, when two valuable papers were discussed, one by General J. B. Fry, U. S. A., on "A Military Court of Appeal," already published in the *United Service Magazine*, and the other by General T. F. Rodenbough, U. S. A., on "Militia Reform without Legislation," which was read. A synopsis of General Rodenbough's paper is given under our heading of State Troops. The discussion of General Fry's paper is treated of in our editorial columns. Previous to the meeting at the rooms of the institution, the visitors partook of a lunch at the officers' mess, South battery, tendered by Generals Fry and Rodenbough, who did the honors in royal style, and made every one feel at home. Amongst those of the Regular Army who were present were noticed, Generals Hancock, Fry, Ingalls, Sickles, Grier, Benham, Whipple, Gibson, Perry, Clarke, Larned, E. H. Jackson; Colonels Wallace, Litchfield, Michie, Bass, Guenther, Bird, H. C. Wood, Mitchell, Janeway; Majors Gardner, Beck, Wharton; Capt. Ward, 1st Artillery; Lieuts. Barber and Ward, Aides-de-Camp; Lieuts. McAuliffe, Fessenden, Johnson, Brown, Doctor Maddox. Of the National Guard were observed, General Brownell, General Molineux, Inspector General Oliver, Lieutenant Colonel Appleton D. Palmer, 71st regt.; General Alfred C. Barnes, Colonel J. G. Storey, Department of Rifle Practice; Lieutenant Colonel Weber, 5th regt.; Major Wetmore, 9th regt.; Major Jones, 12th regt.; Colonel Cruger, 12th regt., and others.

It was pleasant also to notice so many prominent citizens of New York and vicinity present and full of interest in the proceedings. General Hancock presided at the meeting at the rooms of the institute, and the occasion will be noted as a memorable one in the annals of the institution, and it, and a few more like it, will materially assist the development and progress of this now important adjunct to the Military Service.

HOW IT LOOKS ABROAD.

(From the London Army and Navy Gazette, Dec. 10.)

It will be observed that the practical part of President Arthur's Message in reference to Great Britain relates to the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, and to the distinct assertion of the ridiculous pretence of the United States to have a right to prevent Great Britain joining with other European Powers and the United States to give a guarantee of neutrality to the Ship Canal, in order to establish which position the Government at Washington, we are told, has coolly proposed to the Foreign Office here to wipe out the Treaty in question. So much for the flummery of the Press on both sides respecting the bond of union, sympathy, and the like!

The humiliating position in which the United States has been placed by the attitude which was assumed by its Minister at Peru, must be keenly felt by our good cousins, who claim the right of ruling all the Western world, to the exclusion of any European influence. . . . If the American Minister had a navy at his back, the Government at Washington would, no doubt, make short work of the Chileans. It is a pity that vanity and impotence should have combined to prevent the settlement of a very desolating contest, and that the United States should have taken upon itself a responsibility which as yet it has no strength to assert. We can only rejoice that, late as it is, the Government of the United States is about to redeem its famous Navy from a condition of decrepitude and decay.

(From Broad Arrow, Dec. 10.)

THE American Advisory Board on the Reorganization of the Navy, in their report just published, is of opinion that ironclads should be built for the American Navy, but not until after the thirty-eight unarmored cruisers, five steel 2000-ton rams, five torpedo gunboats, ten cruising torpedo boats, and ten harbor torpedo boats, which, at an estimated cost of twenty-nine to thirty-one million dollars, they recommend should be put in hand. As they calculate this programme will occupy eight years in being carried out, it is evident that the United States are in no great hurry for ironclads. One would have thought that their recent inability to back their views and intentions with regard to South American complications with a naval force would have brought home forcibly to their perceptions that an ironclad fleet, at least equal to the combined fleets of the South American Republics, was a necessity for a power taking such a view of its duties and responsibilities as the United States has recently done. Perhaps the American people are also of this opinion, but the Naval Advisory Board is unable to suggest a type of ironclad which is likely to remain in fashion up to the time the vessel is ready for sea. Hence, under these circumstances, they do not feel in a position to advise any ironclads at all. The Advisory Board looks upon an ironclad ten years old as obsolete; and so in fact she is. But although obsolete she would not be useless. The *Inflexible* was designed nearly eight years ago, but we do not suppose that in two years hence she will be a useless vessel, nor do we think that the *Devastation*, which was designed more than ten years ago, would be refused by the Americans if offered to them. It is true we are not building *Devastations* now, simply because we have discovered a better type of iron-clad; but we, nevertheless, have an idea that for many years to come, whatever improvements may be made in naval construction and gunnery, the *Devastation*, *Thunderer*, and *Dreadnought* will be able to render a very good account of themselves if required to do so.

GEN. Abner Doubleday, U. S. A., and Mrs. Doubleday were present at a reception given by Mrs. Eddy, at 119 East 40th street, New York City, Thursday afternoon, Dec. 22. Co. H, 7th Inf., U. S. A., was to give its first annual ball, at Fort Snelling, Friday, Dec. 23.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

THE QUESTION OF HEAVY ORDNANCE.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: I can imagine no better service you can render the Army, and especially the Ordnance Corps, than in the encouragement of dispassionate, disinterested discussion of the subject of Heavy Ordnance. The editorial and correspondence following on this subject have given us about the only light we have on it. I was more than pleased to read "Fiat Justitia's" defence in your edition of December 10, but was pained to see at the close of his remarks an outcropping of the intolerant spirit that has kept far away from Ordnance councils all dissenting opinion. There is one point, however, he fails to enlighten us on. Possibly he may be kind enough to do so. He states that "In answer to the assertion that the coiled wrought iron tube is about the worst to employ, it is sufficient to state that the English government has converted about 1,200 old cast iron guns by the insertion of tubes of this kind on the plan of Sir William Palliser without a single failure."

But if he turns to page 140 of the "Text Book on the Construction and Manufacture of Rifled Ordnance in the British Service," he will read that "that the employment of converted guns (on the Palliser plan) with battering charges has since been abandoned." Why has the employment of battering charges been abandoned in these guns by the British since away back in 1873? As this experience of the English seems to be the most substantial fact quoted by "Fiat Justitia" in favor of the method of conversion adopted by the late constructor of ordnance, one is even led to doubt the infallibility of "one whose signature would carry with it the weight of a well established reputation for thorough knowledge of the subject he discusses."

ORDNANCE.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: I have read Mr. Hunt's pamphlet with interest, though I disagree with him on many points. His little hits at Krupp and Armstrong are admirable, e. g., where he speaks of the great irregularities of pressures of guns (p. 6). Now the fact is this: Such irregularities have occurred, as Krupp and the German government have tried about every kind of gunpowder known. Some kinds acted of course worse than others and they were promptly given up. However, the fact remained there had been once a very great pressure on the gun. So Mr. Hunt is right—only such differences in pressure have never been attributed to the projectile; always to the powder charge. Then again the Germans never experience any such difference in service guns now-a-days.

Mr. Hunt makes one serious mistake. He thinks cast iron rifled guns have not had a fair trial. They have. The German navy possessed as early as 1860 in the 6 inch rifled gun (they called it after the weight of the iron ball of the same diameter, a 24 pounder), a most excellent gun as far as accuracy was concerned. From it was fired a shell weighing about 50 lbs., with a charge of 4.5 lbs. (German weight). It was fully able to penetrate the wooden walls at considerable distances, and in those sea fights between Denmark on one side and Prussia and Austria on the other, which occurred in '64, it did good execution. Part of the Austrian fleet was armed with the same guns in the battle of Lissa. The Germans gave them up because they could not increase the powder charge without ultimately breaking the gun down.

This does and always will happen in a cast iron gun if subjected to the heavy pressure you must have if you want to get through a solid armor of say 15 inches. Mr. Hunt thinks he can get through 28 inches of iron. He does not say that he means (very likely) 28 one-inch boiler plates. These form 28 inches of iron, and are just as strong as a solid plate of say 6 inches and a proper backing. He thinks he would make up for the immense penetrating power of projectiles of small diameter and high velocities by increasing the diameter and the weight of the shot, and forgets entirely that a 7 in. shot, having a larger *vis viva* for the square inch of the calibre of the shot, will penetrate more iron than a 16 in. shot having less *pro rata*, though the momentum of the latter may be four times as big as the former.

But the greatest mistake is this: Mr. Hunt proposes a material whose limit of elasticity is very low (see Hunt's own statements, p. 26). By firing such charges as are necessary nowadays this limit is exceeded every time the gun is fired, and every time the gun must draw on its reserve force—its tenacity—till this is exhausted and the gun bursts, with the gunmaker far distant and only a few Jacks around.

A man firing and using such a gun is exactly in the position of a man who, in order to live, draws on his capital, as he cannot get along on the interest alone. Of course, everybody knows that sooner or later that man must come to grief—and so must and will burst every cast iron gun in which modern charges are used. In a steel gun this mistake can be avoided, and is avoided in the Krupp gun. They are never strained, with service charges, above the elastic limit, and they can therefore, as far as the gas pressures are concerned, be considered as indestructible.

If American gunmakers cannot produce a proper steel gun, the Government ought to take the thing in their own hands. Russia did this, and succeeded fairly well. They bought all Krupp's first guns, paid heavily for them, encouraged him at first more than the German government, and when they had what they wanted they said to Obuchoff, Can you duplicate these guns? He could. I don't think Krupp sells single experimental guns, but Armstrong, Vavasseur, Blakely, and Broadwell do. Now, why not get one of each

kind, try them, and ask the steel works whether they can make something like it?

What is being proved now at Sandy Hook has been proved over and over again before, so much so that any one acquainted with modern gun making can predict pretty accurately when and how the guns tried will burst.

There is no difficulty about obtaining any guns that are wanted from American gunmakers, if proper encouragement is given. After the Government has settled upon its choice of guns it will take years to supply them, so that, once the orders were given, manufacturers could, no doubt, afford to incur the large preliminary outlay which would be required, provided they were sure of fair treatment. Whatever may be decided upon, we do not believe our American Congress will consent to import anything more than experimental guns from abroad, and it would certainly be very foolish to establish a dependence upon foreign manufacturers for material of war which might be equally well supplied at home.—EDITOR JOURNAL.

THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY MATCH.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: The recent telegraphic despatch that the British National Rifle Association had appointed the Earl of Waldegrave, Sir Henry Halford, and others, as a Committee upon the proposed International Military Match, at Wimbledon, shows that it has met with most cordial approval, and from the standing of the committee, taken in connection with the honors recently paid to the American flag, during the Lord Mayor's procession, in London, gives good reason to believe that the American team will meet with a reception far beyond anything which has hitherto been the fortune of such organizations.

There are, however, difficulties in the way of arranging the details of this match which will be very difficult to remove in regard to the positions and the rifle to be used.

On the "position" question the Americans have adhered to the rule requiring all shooting at 200 yards to be done standing, or "off hand." In this, in their own opinion at least (and I think in the opinion of the majority of those who regard rifle shooting as something more than the mere making of a certain number of bull's-eyes) they are clearly right.

A large amount, if not the majority of shooting in hunting and war is necessarily done "from the shoulder." While all men will lie down and take a rest when they can, the occasions are so many when they cannot that it is necessary that they should learn to shoot standing to be good shots. If practice in this position is not kept up by matches and rewards for skill the position becomes neglected and finally abandoned.

This is exactly the case now existing at Wimbledon. For a number of years "any position" has been allowed at 200 yards. As the prone position affords the greatest certainty of making bull's-eyes, it has therefore been universally used, so that shoulder shooting is almost a lost art. The British authorities will in all probability desire to have the matches so arranged that lying down will be permitted in firing at 200 yards. On the other hand public sentiment in this country is so thoroughly opposed to anything of the kind as practically to make it impossible to make such a concession. Here evidently will arise the first great difficulty.

The difficulty in regard to rifles is even greater than that as to position. One of the correspondents of the *Volunteer Service Gazette* has suggested that in order to prevent the match being a contest of rifles, instead of men, the teams shall exchange guns. But, even if this course should be adopted, what guns are the American team to shoot?

The National Guards of the different States are armed with an almost infinite variety of weapons, none of which are satisfactory for this purpose. The 50 cal. Remington of the New York National Guard is of course out of the question. The altered Springfield of Pennsylvania and some of the other States and the Peabody of Connecticut are still worse. The Springfield used by the Army, which would naturally be selected, is not a first class military gun, and decidedly inferior to the Sharps, a fact which, although the Ordnance Department will probably never actually admit, is conceded by all riflemen, and is demonstrated by the manufacture and issue of the new special rifle which was shot by the Army teams in the matches for the Hilton shield. This gun is sufficiently powerful to place the teams using it on an equality with the Martini-Henry, which its opponents would probably use.

The Sharps rifle, which is used by the National Guard of Michigan, Louisiana, and some of the other States, is generally considered to be the best military gun we have, and would probably be adopted, particularly as most of the good shots have a Bochart-Sharps of their own, to which they are accustomed. But here comes the great difficulty, i. e., as to sights, which applies to all the rifles in use.

The necessary allowance to be made for wind upon a military rifle can be made—

1. By "holding off" the necessary distance.
2. By inverting the sight so as to make a straight bar and aiming to one side or other of its centre.
3. By moving the rear sight by a wind gauge.

The National Rifle Association of America (following the example of that of Great Britain) have, until recently, prohibited wind gauges on military rifles, while permitting the use of the inverted bar. This was based on the theory that military rifle shooting in matches was to be brought down as closely as possible to what the soldier was required to perform in the field, and it would be practically impossible to handle in action a wind gauge requiring to be manipulated with a screw,

although a man might make an allowance for wind (if he was cool enough to make any) by aiming over the bar, which required no manipulation, or by holding off.

The Ordnance Department of the Army having placed wind-gauge sights upon the Springfield rifle within the last few years, the association was necessarily obliged to admit them, or place themselves in the position of rejecting, as a military weapon, the rifle which is used by the Army. Whatever might be the case in field shooting, in target firing a wind-gauge is unquestionably an advantage. The example set by the Army was therefore at once followed by the different States, so that most of the military rifles in use by our crack shots are now provided with a wind-gauge. The result is exactly the same as we find in Wimbledon in regard to the standing position. With the exception of a few, such as Dolan and Van Heusen, who have not taken up the wind-gauge, but continue to shoot over the straight bar (and who, it may be said, are not excelled as riflemen by any of these who shoot at Creedmoor), the military riflemen of the country, having practiced for the last two years or more with a wind-gauge, have got so that they cannot shoot without it. This was strikingly demonstrated in the match for the Hilton Shield at Creedmoor this fall, when the Pennsylvania team, which had beaten its opponents at 200 and 500 yards, was itself beaten at 600 by the 50 calibre Remington, for the sole reason that the sights on the Springfield, with which it was armed, were so narrow that the men could not make the necessary allowance for a heavy wind upon them and they had forgotten how "to hold off." As there is not a wind-gauge on a military rifle in Great Britain, and as the authorities at Wimbledon are not likely to allow the introduction of such a military monstrosity, it is pretty certain none will be permitted in the match. If none is permitted, the organization of a team that can shoot with sufficient skill without one will be a matter of great difficulty.

It seems curious that the Ordnance Department, with all their experience and unlimited means, could not have practical ability enough to see what is universally recognized in England, that the military sight which is wanted for the soldier is not a Buck horn moved with a screw, which is as apt to be on the wrong side as the right when used under excitement, but a broad, flat sight on which an allowance for wind can be made when desired, without the use of any mechanical appliance, a sight which need not be fastened in the centre by a screw when used by green men (as has been the case with the Springfield sight), and the use of which will not destroy the ability to do practical military shooting.

G. W. W.

THE ENSIGN QUESTION.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: In the *JOURNAL* of Nov. 12 is an editorial urging the passage of a bill making the academy graduates ensigns a year after their final graduation. Such a law would defeat its own end, for in place of the present compact list of ensigns, liable to rather better duty than midshipmen, there would be an ever-increasing number of ensigns who would have to perform the boat duty and other disagreeable but necessary work which now falls to their juniors.

The advocates of the bill say that the first hundred ensigns would continue to enjoy the same advantages which all the ensigns now have over midshipmen.

However this might be in theory, in practice it would not be so, as it would be difficult to carry out distinctions as to duty between men of the same grade when it would be perfectly simple if the same men were of different grades.

The true way to remedy the stagnation among the midshipmen is not to make them all ensigns, when the stagnation would only be transferred to another grade, but to offer a year's pay to those who will wholly retire from the Service. There are many among the recent graduates who would promptly take advantage of such an opportunity.

A MIDSHIPMAN.

SOLDIER SERVANTS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

To the Editor of the *Army and Navy Journal*:

SIR: From the following, which I find in the *Army and Navy Gazette* of London, it appears that the necessity for a servant is conceded to the officers of the British army. The only trouble seems to be how many certain grades may have.

While there is yet time, and before the long-looked-for republication of the Queen's Regulations, it is as well to draw attention to the anomaly existing in the present edition as to officers' servants. Under sec. 7, par. 108, it is laid down that an adjutant or musketry instructor of Infantry may have two soldier servants to attend on him and his horse, whereas a brigadier major, or assistant adjutant general, may only have one servant to look after him and his two horses. The case has been referred by general officers over and over again, but the War Office officials merely quote in reply the paragraph in the Regulations, which must evidently have been inadvertently framed. We feel sure the Secretary of State for War, who does not frame his Warrants as a rule to the prejudice of the Staff, can never have had this question directly brought to his notice.

X.

A new revolving cannon is in course of construction at the Krupp works for the German Government. It is the intention of that Government to introduce it into the navy as a weapon which will be used especially against torpedo boats.

GENERAL CAXADA has submitted to the Minister of War a scheme for the construction of a special train for military purposes. The locomotive and carriages should be plated with iron sufficiently strong to be impenetrable by small arms. The train would convey 9 officers and 166 men, fully equipped, with implements for repairing or destroying the line, as might be necessary, and also a quantity of entrenching tools.—*Correo Militar*.

THE STATE TROOPS.

MILITIA REFORM WITHOUT LEGISLATION.

We give elsewhere a report of the meeting held at Governor's Island on Saturday last, reserving for this department of the JOURNAL the admirable paper on this subject by General Rodenbough, the reading and discussion of which was the chief feature of the occasion. In introducing his subject General Rodenbough traced the growth of popular interest in the militia, and showed the benefits resulting from the increase of intercourse between the Army and the Militia: "More than one regular inspector has admitted that his professional information was largely increased by the opportunity—so rare in time of peace—thus afforded to study the composition of large bodies of volunteers. At the great Creedmoor match of 1880, one of the pleasant features of the contest was the spectacle of National Guardsmen acting as 'coaches' for some of the Army teams. How far experiments in clothing, feeding and sheltering State troops may be of value to the War Department remains to be seen."

Target Practice.—Speaking of target practice General R. says: "During a recent and extended tour through the State of New York, I was surprised to see the numerous rifle targets which seemed to dot the landscape with bull's eyes; many of these were remote from the stations of troops and belonged to village clubs. If Kentucky and certain frontier States have been schools for sharpshooters, New York has undoubtedly become their university. It has been asserted by many riflemen that proficiency in this respect is, independently of other military qualities, a sufficient public safeguard. It is only for this class that we need assert that a mob of sharpshooters could never hope to withstand a smaller, well disciplined body of moderate skill with the rifle."

Discipline.—In discipline the Militia are weak. The General says: "I believe I do not state the case too strongly when I assert that at least forty per centum of Militia company commanders are incompetent; they may be gentlemen of the highest personal reputation, but through the bad elective system, supplemented by a worse method of examination, they have been placed in positions for which they are unfitted. Too often the Board of Examination is formed of inexperienced officers, selected on account of rank or convenient location, but lacking the practical ability requisite. A lesson in tactics, learned by rote perhaps, generally comprises the scope of the inquiry; matters of discipline, conduct in an emergency, field service, official correspondence, care of troops, etc., are seldom touched upon. The tendency of many commanding officers to neglect to turn over command, occasionally, to subordinates for practice is another mistake. I have seen a lieutenant when called upon suddenly to take command of his company grow bewildered, start at the sound of his own voice, and from sheer want of practice have to retire in mortification. A temporary detail instead of a permanent examining board, with a general order specifying the nature of the examination, for its guidance, would be an improvement on the present mode."

The proportion of organized militia should, in time of peace, he thinks, not exceed thirty per centum of the number of citizens likely to enlist if urged by recruiting officers. The physical standard of recruits should be uniform. "While the standard need not be unreasonable, its nature should be the enlistment of under-sized, unhealthy-looking boys, such as are not infrequently found in the ranks; the least exposure or even a severe drill sends these men home, deprives the regiment of their services at critical times, and often paves the way to a military funeral."

Setting Up—Steadiness—Guard Duty.—Out of 20,000 men inspected by Gen. R. during the last eighteen months, not 500 were properly set up. The physique of the amateur is generally equal, and his intelligence superior, to those qualities in the regular soldier, but he rarely acquires the true professional bearing—"straight without stiffness." A well set up soldier becomes steady and attentive without effort, and does not lose time in "gathering himself" before executing an order. The remedy is in the hands of every instructor who, in the absence of a suitable model in his own command, is stationed near a military post or can secure the services of a discharged regular non-commissioned officer. The want of steadiness under arms (except during the ceremonies of dress parade and review), is very common; it reflects directly on the commanding officers, especially of companies. It either indicates indifference on their part, or else the want of frequent rests. Ignorance of guard duty is a very serious and universal deficiency.

Clothing.—Of this Gen. R. says: "The violent opposition of certain famous regiments of militia to any interference with their dress by the State has, perhaps, set their State behind more progressive ones at least five years. All regiments should be provided with a dark blue flannel blouse, at least, that they may avoid the discomfort and disability sure to result from a dependence on obsolete ball room finery when ordered for service."

Marches.—Under this head we find the following sensible remarks: The late Gen. Upton, present one hot day at a review of a division of the New York National Guard, was admiring the picturesque features of the display, the color and excitement and glitter, as the masses swept by the reviewing stand. Looking towards the rear of the column over the miles of flashing steel, he noticed that the formation was the same—company front, elbows touching, uniform step, quick time—while in front the pace was already beginning to tell on the plucky but over driven men, as shown by white lips, staring eyes, dilated nostrils, panting chests. Turning to a friend the General said: "This is sheer cruelty!" Had he known that some of those regiments would march two or three miles further, in the same close order and regular step, his wonder and compassion would have been unbounded. It is a grievous mistake and sometimes a crime to keep men braced up continuously for such a distance; as well might the reviewing stand be as long as the route. Well seasoned regulars are never abused in that way; why should occasionally exercised militia be so ill treated? There can be but one answer to the query, I fear—"It is our custom." Whenever troops are taken outside their armories, the rules prescribed for "Marches" should govern. In case of a review, the route step should be taken until within a very short distance of the reviewing point; the uneven and slippery stones of city streets make the uniform step difficult and wearisome, and the route step a welcome relief.

Encampments—Inspections.—Ten days is the shortest time that can be advantageously devoted to a camp of instruction, one of which should be devoted to pitching and striking tents. A representative or skeleton encampment of State troops should be held at least once in five years. The importance of frequent inspection is strongly set forth. "A detachment, a company, a regiment, should never be marched off its parade ground, for any duty, until the commanding officer or non-commissioned officer in charge has noted its general appearance, and the condition of its arms

and accoutrements. There is good reason for stating that this is not habitual with company commanders and first sergeants."

Artillery—Cavalry.—Gen. R. favors dismounted batteries on the footing of the dismounted batteries of the Army—armed and instructed as infantry for parade, but supplied with from two to four field guns and limbers each, for the purpose of firing salutes or for service in case of riot—when properly supported by infantry. A few "art" Gatlings or Gardner guns, distributed among the better infantry regiments, for use when field guns might be unavailable, would complete an artillery equipment for the largest State. A detachment in each company could be drilled in the use of this auxiliary and the power of that command thereby increased tenfold.

When the same horses cannot be used at all times for mounted duty it is unwise to organize troops of cavalry.

Social Entertainments.—While this feature of militia service is not to be discouraged, it should be kept distinct from the purely military exercises. As a matter of custom, dancing and drilling should never take place within the same hour or when practicable on the same day; it is injurious to discipline.

In conclusion Gen. Rodenbough says: "It has frequently been asserted that the main stay of a republic, in time of war, must be its volunteer soldiers. The value of this element consists in its preparation for an emergency and its natural instructor and military exemplar is the Regular Army. From the Army must be drawn the sergeant instructors, the tactical manuals, the customs of service, the camp and garrison information, which are indispensable to excellence in a fighting force. The time for this co-operation has come and earnest work is no less important with the professional than with the amateur soldier; neither can afford to stand still, and while the one must keep pace with the rapid strides of military science, the other must make up for lost time by taking up the no less important but simpler problems of military art—the training and handling of troops. As we have seen, Legislation is needed, but, before the signature of the Executive is likely to be—in the natural course of events—appended to a new law, the commanding officers of the militia have it in their power to strengthen their organizations so that they will be ready to reap the substantial benefits of the statute when it comes, and then have but little remaining to complete the construction of the best National Guard the world ever saw."

General Rodenbough's paper was heartily applauded, and a brief discussion followed, in which Gen. Molineux, Gen. Oliver, Lieutenant Colonel Palmer and Gen. Sickles participated. Gen. Molineux said that the subject of the training of the National Guard was one in which the general Government should take a supreme interest. Until the Government should do this the Militia were thankful to the officers of the Regular Army for their suggestions and instructions. While the speaker was a brigade commander of the Militia he endeavored to give practical instruction to his men, and he found that they were quick and eager to learn. The material of the Militia of this State, the General said, is good; what it wants is proper moulding into shape.

Inspector General Oliver said that the Militia was grateful for the interest which is being developed in their training by officers of the Regular Army. What is needed is first to raise the standard of the men and officers, which can be done by general orders, and after that little can be accomplished without encampments, and encampments in association with the Regular Army officers and men. By means of such encampments only can Militia men be made to learn what discipline really means, and what the life of a soldier really is. Lieut. Colonel Palmer said that his experience has been that the privates in the National Guard are eager to learn, but the officers are too frequently either incompetent or careless in their teaching. Gen. Sickles thought that the main trouble was in the want of proper and efficient inspectors. On motion of Major Gardner, the institution passed a vote of thanks to Gen. Rodenbough for the preparation of his able paper.

"The Military Service Institution" is now an approved success, and affords to all connected with it, in and out of the Regular Army, ample opportunity for professional study and observation. The next thing in order seems to us to be a "Militia Service Institution," and New York the place where it should be established. This would afford to the militia officers of the various regiments of the State and country at large a place of general meeting for discussion, consultation, etc., on professional matters, and enable them to reciprocate the invitations extended by the Regular officers to their Service Institution, and thus add a powerful impetus to the apparent public desire that there should be unanimity of feeling and action between regulars and militia.

REDUCING THE NATIONAL GUARD OF NEW YORK.—G. O. 28, Albany, Dec. 17, 1881, directs that the following alterations and disbandments be made in the National Guard of New York, to take effect from the first day of January, 1882, namely:

In the 1st Division.—(a.) The 5th regiment, Lieut.-Col. Abram L. Webster, and Battery B, 1st Lieut. Ernst Foeller, are hereby disbanded.

In the 2d Division.—(b.) The 17th Separate Company, 2d Division, is hereby transferred to the 5th Brigade, and Battery N, 11th Brigade, is hereby transferred to the 2d Division.

In the 3d Division.—(c.) The 6th, 7th, 12th, and 21st Separate Companies, 3d Division, are hereby transferred to the 9th Brigade. The 9th, 18th, 22d, 27th, and 31st Separate Companies, 3d Division, and the 36th and 37th Separate Companies, 9th Brigade, are hereby transferred to the 4th Brigade.

In the 5th Division.—(d.) Company D, Capt. Isaiah Frazier, 16th Battalion, is hereby transferred from such battalion, re-organized into a separate company and attached to the 9th Brigade. The 16th Battalion is hereby disbanded.

(e.) The 11th Separate Company, Capt. James M. Jarvis, is hereby detached from the 7th Brigade, and attached to the 9th Brigade, and such 7th Brigade is hereby disbanded. (f.) Companies A, Capt. James E. Chase, and B, Capt. Joseph M. Dickey, 17th Battalion, are hereby transferred from such battalion, re-organized into separate companies and attached to the 9th Brigade, and the 17th Battalion is hereby disbanded. (g.) Company B, Capt. Benjamin J. Hornbeck, 20th Battalion, is hereby transferred from such Battalion, re-organized into a separate company and attached to the 9th Brigade. The 20th Battalion is hereby disbanded. (h.) Companies A, Capt. Berthold Myers, and D, Capt. Wm. Hauben- neel, 21st regiment, are hereby transferred from such regiment, re-organized into separate companies and attached to the 9th Brigade. The 21st regiment and Battery D, 8th Brigade, are hereby disbanded. (i.) The 24th Separate Company, Capt. Wm. H. Van Sickle, 8th Brigade, is hereby disbanded. (j.) The 16th, 23d and 33d Separate Companies, 8th Brigade, are hereby transferred from such brigade and attached, the 16th and 23d to the 9th Brigade, and the 33d to the 4th Brigade. The 8th Brigade and the 5th Division and its district is hereby disbanded.

In the 6th Division.—(k.) Companies B, Capt. John W. Gossin, and C, Capt. Joseph H. Remmer, 26th Battalion, are hereby transferred from such battalion, re-organized into separate companies and attached to the 4th Brigade. The 26th Battalion is hereby disbanded. (l.) The 35th Separate Company, Capt. Chas. E. Bemick, 6th Division, is hereby transferred to the 4th Brigade. (m.) The 5th Separate Company, Capt. Geo. P. Nock, is hereby disbanded. (n.) The 4th Brigade is hereby transferred from the 6th to the 3d Division. (o.) Companies A, Capt. Hugh H. Herron, and F, Capt. Henry C. Thompson, 48th regiment, are hereby transferred from such regiment, re-organized into separate companies and attached to the 10th Brigade. The 48th regiment is hereby disbanded. (p.) Company C, Capt. Charles A. Settle, 35th Battalion, is hereby transferred from such Battalion, re-organized into a separate company, and attached to the 10th Brigade. The 35th Battalion is hereby disbanded. (q.) The 19th Separate Company, Capt. Louis A. Scott, and Separate Troop I, Capt. Wm. S. Turner, 6th Brigade, are hereby disbanded. (r.) The 6th Brigade is hereby disbanded. (s.) Companies B, Capt. Anthony Christy, D, (Captain vacant), and G, Capt. Theo. M. Barber, 51st regiment, are hereby transferred from such regiment, re-organized into separate companies, and attached to the 10th Brigade. The 51st regiment is hereby disbanded. (t.) The 28th Separate Company, Capt. Eugene Root, the 29th Separate Company, Capt. Harrison Clark, and Battery G, Capt. Emmon T. Walker, are hereby disbanded. (u.) Batteries C, Capt. Michael Auer, 10th Brigade, and L, Capt. L. L. Olmsted, 6th Division, are hereby detached from such organizations and attached to the 8th Division. (v.) The following Separate Companies now reporting to 6th Division Headquarters are hereby attached to the 10th Brigade, namely: 1st, 20th, 25th, 30th, 32d, and 34th. The 10th Brigade is hereby transferred to the 8th Division. The 7th Division and its District are hereby disbanded.

In the 8th Division.—(w.) Companies D and E, 65th regiment, and E and K, 74th regiment, the 4th, 10th, 14th and 15th Separate Companies, and Battery A, are hereby disbanded. (x.) The 8th Separate Company, Captain Henry B. Henderson, now reporting to 8th Division headquarters, is hereby attached to the 14th brigade, and Battery M, Captain Henry W. Linderman, reporting to 14th brigade headquarters, is hereby attached to the 8th division.

Paragraphs II, III, IV, and V, directs as to the closing up of the affairs of the disbanded organizations, which will be assembled for muster out at their respective quarters, in the places and upon the dates following:

Date.	Hour.	Organization.	Station.
1882.			
January 6	8.00 P. M.	5th regiment.....	New York.
" 7	8.00 P. M.	Battery B.....	"
" 9	10.30 A. M.	Co. E, 16th battalion.	Tarrytown.
" 9	3.00 P. M.	Co. B, " "	Nyack.
" 9	8.00 P. M.	Co. F, " "	Dobbs Ferry.
" 10	10.00 A. M.	Co. C, " "	Sing Sing.
" 10	1.00 P. M.	Co. A & G, 16th btl.	Peekskill.
" 11	10.30 A. M.	Co. E & H, 21st regt.	Fishkill.
" 11	2.00 P. M.	17th battalion.....	Newburgh.
" 12	10.00 A. M.	Battery D.....	Poughkeepsie.
" 12	2.00 P. M.	B, F, G, 121st rgt	"
" 13	1.00 P. M.	20th battalion.....	Kingston.
" 17	9.00 A. M.	5th Separate Co.....	Rome.
" 17	1.30 P. M.	26th battalion.....	Utica.
" 18	3.30 P. M.	19th Separate Co.....	Lovellville.
" 19	10.00 A. M.	35th battalion.....	Towntown.
" 20	2.00 P. M.	Co. I, 48th regt.....	Mexico.
" 21	9.00 A. M.	Co. B.....	Hannibal.
" 21	1.30 P. M.	Troop I.....	Oswego.
" 21	2.00 P. M.	E, H & K, 48th r.	"
" 23	9.30 A. M.	51st regt.....	Syracuse.
" 23	3.30 P. M.	Co. G, 48th regt.....	Fulton.
" 24	10.30 A. M.	Battery A.....	Rochester.
" 24	4.30 P. M.	15th Separate Co.....	Lockport.
" 25	9.30 A. M.	D & E 65th regt.	Buffalo.
" 25	2.00 P. M.	E & K 74th regt.	"
" 26	9.00 A. M.	14th Separate Co.....	Batavia.
" 27	2.00 P. M.	4th Separate Co.....	Jamestown.
" 28	9.30 A. M.	10th Separate Co.....	Ellicottville.
" 30	9.30 A. M.	Battery G.....	Elmira.
" 30	11.00 A. M.	28th Separate Co	"
" 30	3.30 P. M.	29th Separate Co.....	Horseheads.
February 1	9.00 A. M.	24th " "	Ellenville.

The commissioned officers of the said organizations disbanded are hereby rendered supernumerary.

Brigadier General Robert S. Oliver, Inspector General, or such officer of his department as he may direct, is designated as mustering officer. Brigadier General Daniel D. Wylie, Chief of Ordnance and Acting Quartermaster General will receive the State property turned over.

VI. The following changes in designation are hereby made, to take effect from the 1st day of January, 1882:

The 8th Division will hereafter be designated the 4th Division; the 3d Brigade as the 2d Brigade; the 5th Brigade as the 3d Brigade; the 11th Brigade as the 4th Brigade; the 9th Brigade as the 5th Brigade; the 4th Brigade as the 6th Brigade; the 10th Brigade as the 7th Brigade; the 14th Brigade as the 8th Brigade; Battery K, 1st Division, as the 1st Battery, attached to 1st Division; Battery E, 1st Division, as the 2d Battery, attached to 1st Division; Battery N, 2d Division, as the 3d Battery, attached to the 2d Division; Battery F, 3d Division, as the 4th Battery, attached to the 3d Division; Battery C, 4th Division, as the 5th Battery, attached to the 4th Division; Battery L, 4th Division, as the 6th Battery, attached to the 4th Division; Battery M, 4th Division, as the 7th Battery, attached to the 4th Division.

The Separate Companies organized by this order are designated as follows: Capt. Frazier's company (formerly Co. D, 16th Battalion), as the 4th Separate Company; Capt. Chase's company (formerly Co. A, 17th Battalion), as the 5th Separate Company; Capt. Dickey's company (formerly Co. E, 17th Battalion), as the 10th Separate Company; Capt. Hornbeck's company (formerly Co. B, 20th Battalion), as the 14th Separate Company; Capt. Myer's company (formerly Co. A, 21st regiment), as the 15th Separate Company; Capt. Hauben- neel's company (formerly Co. D, 21st regiment), as the

19th Separate Company; Capt. Gossin's company (formerly Co. B, 26th Battalion), as the 24th Separate Company; Capt. Remmer's company (formerly Co. C, 26th Battalion), as the 28th Separate Company; Capt. Herron's company (formerly Co. A, 48th regiment), as the 29th Separate Company; Capt. Thompson's company (formerly Co. F, 48th regiment), as the 38th Separate Company; Capt. Settle's company (formerly Co. C, 35th Battalion), as the 39th Separate Company; Capt. Ohry's company (formerly Co. B, 51st regiment), as the 40th Separate Company; the company (formerly Co. D, 51st regiment), as the 41st Separate Company; Capt. Barber's company (formerly Co. G, 51st regiment), as the 42d Separate Company.

VII. The 3d and 4th Division Districts, commanded by Majors-General J. B. Carr and W. F. Rogers, respectively are reorganized to comprise various counties, as follows, to take effect from the 1st day of January, 1882:

3d Division District.—Counties of Albany, Columbia, Clinton, Dutchess, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Orange, Oneida, Otsego, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Schoharie, Sullivan, St. Lawrence, Schenectady, Saratoga, Ulster, Warren, Washington, and Westchester. 4th Division District.—Counties of Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauque, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Erie, Genesee, Jefferson, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, Onondaga, Ontario, Oswego, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates.

VIII. The National Guard of the State, as reorganized by this order, will be as follows:

First Division.—Major General Alexander Shaler. Comprising 1st and 2d Brigades, 1st and 2d Batteries.

1st Brigade.—Brig. General Wm. G. Ward: 9th, 11th, 12th, and 22d regiments. 2d Brigade.—Brig. General J. M. Varian: 7th, 8th, 69th, and 71st regiments.

Second Division.—Major General James Jourdan. Comprising 3d and 4th Brigades and 3d Battery.

3d Brigade.—Brig. General C. T. Christensen: 13th and 14th regiments, 17th Separate Company. 4th Brigade.—Brig. General Wm. H. Brownell: 23d, 33d, and 47th regiments.

Third Division.—Major General Joseph B. Carr. Comprising 5th and 6th Brigades and 4th Battery.

5th Brigade.—Brig. General T. E. Lord: 10th Battalion, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 21st, and 23d Separate Companies. 6th Brigade.—Brig. General S. Dering: 3d, 9th, 18th, 23d, 24th, 27th, 28th, 31st, 33d, 35th, 36th and 37th Separate Companies.

Fourth Division.—Major General Wm. F. Rogers. Comprising 7th and 8th Brigades, 5th, 6th and 7th Batteries.

7th Brigade.—Brig. General D. H. Bruce: 1st, 3d, 20th, 25th, 29th, 30th, 32d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 40th, 41st and 42d Separate Companies. 8th Brigade.—Brig. General John C. Graves: 65th regiment, 74th regiment, 8th, 13th and 26th Separate Companies.

The paragraph on another page, commencing "According to the last report of the A. G.," should have formed part of this article, but was accidentally misplaced and on the press before the error was discovered.

SEVENTH NEW YORK.—On Tuesday night, Dec. 20, Companies F, Capt. Appleton, and E, Capt. Rhoads, drilled at the armory of the 7th. Company E was not very well represented, only about 12 files being present. We do not know the reason for this small attendance, as it is said that the company has been in a very healthy condition since Capt. Rhoads has had command of it. This company did not perform any marching, but confined itself to the manual of arms, and as it was kept in the corner farthest away from our stand we could only catch an occasional movement. What we saw was done in good shape.

Capt. Appleton's company presented a fine appearance, 33 files being in line. This is considered one of the best companies in the regiment, and has 100 members on its roll. Three years ago, when Capt. Appleton took command of it, it only had about half that number of members—the increase and present prosperous condition and efficiency of the company are all due to the energy and tact of the present commander. When we entered the hall the drill had already commenced. Company F was just performing an oblique march in column of fours, which was excellently executed. On right into line, on left into line, were several times repeated, four right followed, then came from single rank, four left next, and the company was in line in single rank. All those movements were well done. The line now occupied about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the breadth of the hall, yet the march to the front was remarkably steady and the alignment thoroughly preserved as soon as the men had settled down to their work. A wheel in single rank, which followed next, was not so well executed, and, in fact, wheeling is the weak point of this company. The captain seems to understand this, and therefore devoted as much of the drill hour as could be done without causing monotony, to his endeavors to cure this defect in this company. With the material at his disposal, he will doubtless succeed in a very short time. We do not mean to say that every wheel made during the evening was bad; indeed some very good ones were made, at each of which the company was applauded by the spectators. Nobody could help noticing that every man in the ranks was doing his best. The company was brought into double rank, fours were broken to the rear and brought

back to line, marches in column of fours around the hall were executed, left front into line was gone through; single rank distance was taken, several marches in company front, both in single and double rank, were performed; double rank distance in double line was taken, the company obliqued in line in single rank, and wheeling by fours from and into column were made. All these movements were repeated several times, and they were generally so well performed that it would be unfair to mention the few instances where the drill fell below the general standard of the evening. Discipline was kept up thoroughly, step and distances were exact, and the few movements of the manual executed while marching were executed about as well as can be reasonably expected. In a few cases forming line to the front or to the right and left, some of the fours might have shown more uniformity in coming to the carry when arriving on the line. The carry whenever the whole company halted was well done. Little in the manual of arms was performed. What there was of it was generally good. When the drill time (1½ hour) had expired the Captain turned over the company to the 1st Sergeant, who stacked arms and marched the men out of the hall in perfect style.

A visit to the armory of the 7th on any night during the drill season is an interesting one. Whichever department of the immense structure he may enter, be it above or underneath the ground, the visitor will encounter incipient warriors displaying the utmost activity in trying to master their art in all its different phases. The large hall resounds with the commands of the captains and the firm tread of the companies, while the latter go through the various evolutions of Upton; in the smaller drill rooms the recruits receive their lessons in the "setting up" and the other exercises necessary to be learned before they can be put into the ranks; and down below in the gallery a lively firing is kept up at six sets of sliding targets, reduced in size so as to offer equivalents for ranges of 200 and 500 yards. This gallery is by actual measurement 100 yards long, and, besides being very attractive, is certainly the most useful department of the armory.

The system of target practice as pursued reflects great credit upon those who devised it. By reloading the ammunition an allowance ample for all purposes is procured at a comparatively small expense. Mr. Edwards, the armorer, has made some ingenious contrivances of his own for reloading cartridges, by the aid of which one man can prepare 6,000 rounds ready for use in 10 hours; the process, including also removal of the old caps, cleaning and drying of shells, and casting and lubricating the bullets.

The interest taken in firing is a lively one, steady and general progress is secured, and the regiment boasts of a large number of members who average centres at both ranges. Everything possible is done to foster this interest, and a series of matches will be shot before the end of the season.

The first competition in the regimental team match came off, and the following scores were made: Co. K, 133; Co. F, 121; Co. I, 118; Co. H, 117; Co. B, 112; Co. A, 111.

The 7th will be represented by a team at the Atlanta Tournament.

TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—COL. JOSIAH PORTER.—The 22d are glad to have back their Colonel. The review given in honor of his return came off at the armory on Wednesday evening, December 21. The hall was beautifully decorated. At adjutant's call 10 commands of 20 files responded. Lieut. Colonel Camp marched the regiment in review before Col. Porter. The companies performed well, showing that every man was trying to put his best forward. A few recently appointed officers forgot to salute the reviewing officer, and one of the N. C. S. officers made an officer's salute when passing the Colonel. When the review was over the companies left the hall. They were afterwards reformed for a dress parade, at which the Colonel formally resumed command of his regiment. When the military part of the performance was over a promenade concert by Gillmore's band took place. The letter by which Colonel Porter officially reports for duty was received at headquarters 1st division, Dec. 23, 1881.

THIRTY-SECOND NEW YORK.—COL. FINKELMEIER.—At the inspection on Friday night, Dec. 16, at the armory, under General Order 9, 11th Brigade, November 28, this regiment was consolidated into eight companies of twelve files each. The armory is very small, and it was quite a job to get the command, limited as it was in strength, into anything like shape. After considerable side stepping, an interval large enough to accommodate the reviewing officer and his staff was made between the drum major and the rear of the last command, and the inspecting party took the stand. The colonel then presented the regiment in good style, and the usual forms in preparing for review, etc., were gone through, the band furnishing good music while the ceremonies were going on. As before stated, there was hardly room for the regiment in line, and therefore they had no opportunity to show what they could do in the way of marching. The review had to be a crowded affair—there was no help for it in that hall—and the command acquitted itself as well as is reasonable to expect under such circumstances. We are sorry that we cannot say the same of the manual of arms. It is true that a few movements were executed fairly, but, as a whole, the manual was below the

standard, and among all the bad movements that were made "parade rest" was the worst. It is unnecessary to mention every movement; those whose business it is to look after these things, and correct them, can hardly fail to be aware of these defects, and we will only recommend them to practice, and keep on doing so until they get their men in shape to make a creditable show in handling their pieces. The command was in overcoats and light marching order. There was some irregularity in the manner in which the haversack and canteen straps were worn, some of the men having them above and others beneath the overcoat cape. The proper way is to have them under the cape; at any rate, there ought to be uniformity in this respect. Company commanders, and not the men, are responsible for defects of this sort, and all the discredit which follows as a consequence falls upon them. They could easily avoid all such irregularities by simply inspecting their men before marching them out of the company rooms, as is their duty to do.

The improvement in the appearance of the line by the wearing of white gloves would have been greater if strict uniformity in this respect had prevailed, but at several points of the line men with bare hands could be seen. These men should have been placed in the rear rank—another omission the responsibility for which rests upon the commanders in whose companies the irregularity occurred. The inspection of the arms was very minute, and took quite a long time. The condition of the arms and accoutrements was satisfactory. Each company as soon as inspected marched off. The practice allowing men to leave the ranks while in place rest, waiting for the approach of the inspector, is reprehensible, and was indulged in to an altogether unreasonable extent in this case. Men of the rearmost company left their ranks, and kept marching in and out of the hall like bees in a bee-hive. Unsteadiness and loose conduct, greeting of friends out of the ranks by men under arms in ranks in companies while marching from the hall, occurred in various instances. These practices are too unsoldierly to deserve any special comment besides simply mentioning them.

It is said that this regiment has suffered to some extent from the rumors afloat about disbandment, etc., as a good many men whose term has expired have declined to re-enlist under such unsettled conditions. Lately, however, some gains by enlistment have been made.

WASHINGTON LIGHT BATTERY, NEW YORK.—CAPTAIN F. P. EARLE.—At an election, held at the armory, last Thursday evening, December 15, Corporal George M. Owens was unanimously elected 2d lieutenant, Corporal George W. Heinel was promoted sergeant, and Privates John S. Lutz and E. J. Fagan were elected corporals. Colonel C. B. Mitchell, of the 1st Division staff, presided, and in an appropriate manner congratulated the organization upon the unanimity of feeling manifested by the members, and also to the efficiency of the Battery, which he compared as equal to any regiment in the State in case of a riot or other disturbance. The arrangements for the annual reception are progressing favorably, the different sections who will compete for prizes are indefatigable in their efforts to excel each other in drill. The commanders of sections are 1st Sergeant David Wilson, Sergeant Major R. A. Finlay, Sergeants G. H. Bennett and George E. Carter. The utmost good feeling prevails, and all are laboring for a pleasant reunion.

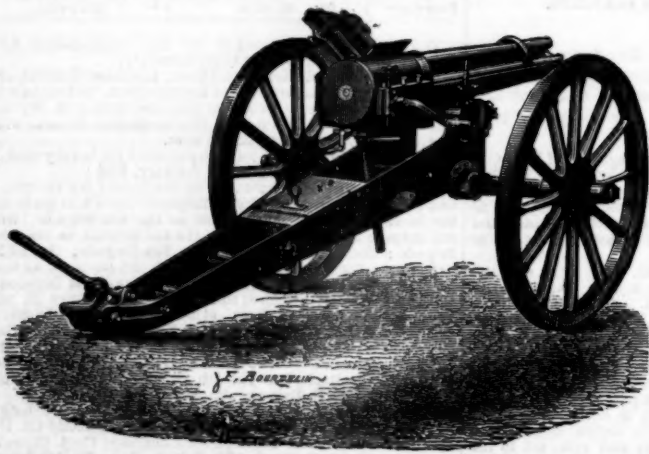
NEW YORK.—The turn of the 47th regiment, Col. Tuttle, came around on Wednesday evening, December 14. General Jourdan being prevented by indisposition to make the inspection in person, the duty fell on Brig. Gen. Christensen, commanding, 5th Brigade. The regiment passed in review, and had a short drill afterwards, at which the performance was about on a level with those of the other organizations lately inspected. About 250 (officers and men) were present. The arms proved to be in excellent condition, and in this respect the regiment proved superior to what appeared at the inspection of its sister regiments.

Commissions have been received at headquarters, 1st division, as follows: Erhart Zangenberg, 2d Lieut. Co. F, 5th regiment; H. L. Chapman, Captain Co. H, 9th regiment; W. V. King, Captain Co. K, 12th regiment; G. Shuterberg, 2d Lieut. Battery E. A full discharge has been granted to 1st Lieut. H. Habb, 5th regiment.

The following staff appointments in the 1st brigade were made: H. L. Leroy, Captain and C. S.; Bleeker Van Waggon, Captain and A. D. C.; Lloyd Aspinwall, Jr., 1st Lieut. A. D. C.

Captain W. Ross, Co. E, and 2d Lieut. J. J. Fogarty, Co. G, 8th regiment, have tendered their resignations.

The annual reception and ball of Co. K, 71st regiment, which took place on Friday evening, Dec. 16, at the Lexington Avenue Opera House, was a pronounced success. The hall was very tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the elegant and costly silk banner presented to the regiment by the citizens of New Orleans on the occasion of the visit of a delegation of the regiment to that city in February last, occupied a conspicuous place among the decorations, and was much admired. The excellence of the music furnished by Joyce's Seventy-first regiment Band, assisted by the Bent brothers, added in no small degree to the evening's enjoyment. Among those present were Capt. S. A. Taylor and Lieuts. Severia and Sherwood, 71st regiment, Mr. S. S. Logan



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and Miss E. B. Ribas, Mr. Alexander Felixotto and Miss E. Seizas, Mr. Atkinson and Miss K. Miller, John King, of the 9th regiment, and Miss Budds, Corp. W. J. Smith and Miss Irene Decker, W. S. Denmark and Miss Clara Dollinger, A. Williams and Miss M. Dorian, W. D. Goss, and Miss W. White, John Breslin and Miss Higgins, Corp. Hart, of the 22d, and Miss Clark, Corp. W. B. Tanner, of the 5th Maryland regiment, and many others. The various committees also deserve words of praise for the thorough and efficient manner in which they performed their respective duties.

The following members of Gatling Battery N, 11th Brigade, Capt. J. P. Milford, qualified as marksmen during the year: Capt. J. A. Edwards, Sgt. E. F. Barnes, Sgt. J. J. Moog, Pvt. J. L. Davett, Sgt. J. P. Mulford, Pvt. G. Slingland, Pvt. R. A. Maxon, Lieut. H. S. Raguin, Corp. W. J. Baugher, Pvt. P. S. Tunison, Pvt. S. W. Tressider, Pvt. J. J. McConville, Pvt. H. Ducker, Corp. G. E. Lovett, Pvt. J. Antwiler, Pvt. G. W. Hopper, and Lieut. P. H. McNulty. The battery was inspected at the armory on Wednesday evening, December 21, by Major-Gen. James Jourdan, commanding 2d Division.

MASSACHUSETTS.—In an order dated Dec. 14, Col. Wm. M. Strachan, commanding the 9th M. V. M., announces the result of his investigation into the alleged misdoings of the 9th, assisted by a board consisting of Major G. A. J. Colgan, Capt. J. J. Barry, Capt. L. J. Ford, 1st Lieut. and Adjutant David Maguire, Col. S. says: "Our inquiries were made and evidence taken at these headquarters and at the armory, the companies being ordered to appear at the latter and submit to all necessary interrogations. The field, staff, and line officers were examined and gave their evidence under oath, being sworn by the recording officer, Adjutant David Maguire. After a most searching investigation, I find that certain misdoings charged against men of this command in the report of the officers appointed under Special Orders No. 122 are corroborated, and in accordance with Special Orders No. 123, I hereby report them for the improper conduct alleged." The names follow of seven men reported for intoxication; Private Green for running after colored women in the streets; eight for jumping on to mules' backs or interfering with mule carts; Private Powers for walking through the streets with a broom over his shoulders; Private Scannell for disobedience of orders, and Musician McGlinchy for unsoldierly conduct. The Colonel then says: "I should not do justice to the regiment if I did not say, after the most thorough investigation, I am unable to substantiate some of the

charges referred to by the board of investigation appointed to go to Richmond. It must be remembered that all the evidence was taken in Richmond; that no testimony was heard in rebuttal; that the report was made in New York and forwarded to headquarters in Boston without any hearing on the part of the regiment. It is not surprising, therefore, that the regimental board of inquiry has been unable to learn that certain alleged offences, such as taking cheap jewelry, insulting young white girls, striking a horse and carriage which was being driven through the streets of Richmond, and other misdoings, have any foundation in fact. On the contrary, not an officer or enlisted man of the regiment either saw or heard anything of the kind, and no such article or articles of jewelry as were reported to have been taken were seen with any man or men of the command. The report of improper conduct at Libby prison is denied by every officer and man who visited the prison, and some of the officers testified that the keeper of the prison, after all the men had left the building, informed them that everything was satisfactory, and that he had no complaint to make. I have spared no effort to search this matter to the bottom. I have shared no man: I am solicited for the honor of the regiment and of the State. As to the former, the board of investigation aforesaid certifies to its good conduct as an organization, and its excellence in military discipline, and finds that only a few individual men, when out of the ranks, were guilty of misconduct. And yet, for the many outrageous charges sent broadcast over the country, and reported as false by the said board, this command has no redress. The 9th regiment went to Yorktown to perform its annual term of camp duty. (If, during the period of encampment, any other organization on the field of Yorktown had done nearly as well in drill, discipline, military courtesy, guard duty, policing of quarters, etc., I question if the 9th would have received the credit which was accorded it.) I will not rehearse the causes that led to the misdoings at Richmond, but before closing I desire to say that few organizations under similar circumstances would have behaved better. My effort has always been to make the 9th a model regiment in every respect. I regret that the personal conduct of a small number of men at Richmond should detract from the otherwise good record of the command during their absence from the State. Although a number of charges are trivial, I forward the names of all men whom I have reason to believe guilty of improper conduct."

In an order dismissing the offenders (S. O. No. 140), Adj. Gen. Berry says: "It does not, however, appear that all of

the offenders have been discovered. The fact that such misconduct as is now acknowledged occurred and was not at once ascertained and punished reflects upon its officers, and indicates a tone in the regiment itself which impairs confidence in and demands that as an organization it should suffer some penalty in order especially that its commanding officers may be sustained in removing from it any element that now make such occurrences possible. This action is alone due to the general interest of the whole militia. There is no reason why this regiment should not, upon fair probation, show itself as distinguished in courtesies and conduct as it has shown itself in military drill and efficiency. It is, therefore, further ordered that the commanding officer shall permit no voluntary parade of the regiment, or any part thereof, outside its armories until the spring drill in May or June next."

In regard to this investigation our Boston correspondent writes: "That the 9th regt. disgraced this State there is little doubt. That a most bungling and stupid investigation has been made is self-evident. If the charges made are true the regiment must know of it, and there must be certain officers who can point out the culprits. If they do not, the regiment should be disbanded. A few men have been singled out charged with drunkenness and mule riding. They are dismissed the service; and then Gov. Long decides that there are others who have not been discovered, and therefore punishes the whole regiment. There should have been no half-way work. The regiment was either deserving of disbandment or acquittal, and this style of doing things is not appreciated by either the militia or its friends in this State. It is argued by some that other regiments under like circumstances would have been equally as guilty. That has no bearing upon the matter whatever. If Col. Strachan had kept his men together there probably would have been no difficulty, and it should be a lesson to commanding officers never to dismiss their commands when in transit. The pressure brought to bear upon Gov. Long to disband the regiment has been very strong, and comes in a large share from merchants and others who contributed to the regiment's trip. It will be a lesson in a certain way to the State to see that its honor is well represented in the future. Had a sufficient appropriate

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tion been made, Massachusetts could have been represented by a picked regiment second to none in the United States, and this unfortunate affair would not have happened to cast a stigma upon the entire militia of this State."

CONNECTICUT.—G. O. No. 9, Dec. 15, 1881, publishes report of drills for November, 1881: 3d regt., percentage, 77.31; 1st regt., percentage, 74.23; Artillery, Battery A, percentage, 71.29.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CHICAGO.—Will you be kind enough to inform several officers of the Illinois National Guard upon the following points: 1. Has a drill master any right to make use of the term, "As you were" while instructing a company? If a mistake is made how shall the men be brought back to the right position? 2. Should an order issued to all the officers of a command, but not intended to be read to the enlisted men, be styled "general" or "special"? 3. Should the title of an officer to whom a communication is addressed be repeated in the commencement, or should the term "Sir," immediately precede the body of the article? 4. Is it the duty of the writer of a military paper to brief it, or is it to be done at some adjutant's office above him? Ans.—1. "As you were" is the term universally used in the Army in the case you mention. We know of no better term to accomplish the object desired. Instructors are perfectly right in using it. 2. According to par. 660 of the Army Regulations, just out,

only one kind of orders is prescribed for commands smaller than a regiment and should be styled simply "orders." Larger commands have general and special orders, and the latter are such as do not concern the troops, generally, and need not be published to the whole command. 3. It is a matter of taste which term you use. Both are correct. 4. The latest instructions from the War Department on official correspondence indicate that communications should be briefed in the office where they are received.

A SUBSCRIBER asks the name of the Lieut.-Com. of our Navy and a short sketch of his naval career. Also who the Com. of the Navy is. ANSWER.—Assuming that our correspondent's abbreviations mean Lieut.-Commander and Commander, we reply that there are 80 Lieut.-Commanders and 90 Commanders, and it would be invidious for us to say which of them has established the best claim to hold the rank. The senior Lieut.-Commander is Joseph B. Coghlan, and the senior Commander Rush R. Wallace.

S. R. M. asks an answer to the following: Whether there is now a vacancy for West Point in the 11th Congressional District of New York, or if none in that one, if there be such a vacancy in any other district of said city? Ans.—The cadet now representing the 11th N. Y. District will not graduate till 1885. There are existing vacancies in the 8th and 10th N. Y. Districts. The 5th has been filled very recently.

C. L. asks if the position of machinist or its equivalent still exists in the Navy? And, if so, what are the necessary

qualifications for admission? also, what is the pay per month? LNS.—Machinists are not allowed now, except on coast survey vessels and vessels of the Fish Commission. New rates have been established for the engineer department of vessels called finishers, boiler makers and blacksmiths. Pay \$50 a month and one ration a day. Applicants for the above rates, who are physically qualified, must pass an examination by an experienced engineer officer as to skill in their respective trades, and upon his recommendation are enlisted. The men filling these rates are not to be detailed for duty outside the engine department, except in case of great emergency.

CORRESPONDENT is informed that the present address of General Kirby Smith is Sewanee, Tennessee.

MARRIED.

LAWTON—CRAIG.—December 13, 1881, at the residence of the bride's mother, at Pewee Valley, Kentucky, by the Rev. Mr. Barr, Captain H. W. LAWTON, 4th Cavalry, and Miss MAMIE CRAIG.

KETCHUM—PECK.—At Canandaigua, N. Y., Dec. 21, 1881, by the Rev. James H. Lee, H. H. KETCHUM, U. S. A., to ELIZABETH LATIMER PECK, daughter of the late W. B. Peck, of Buffalo, N. Y.

DIED.

TURNER.—At St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 16, 1881, Major HENRY B. TURNER, formerly Captain 1st U. S. Dragoons and Brevet Major U. S. Army.

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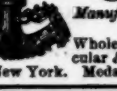
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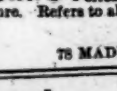
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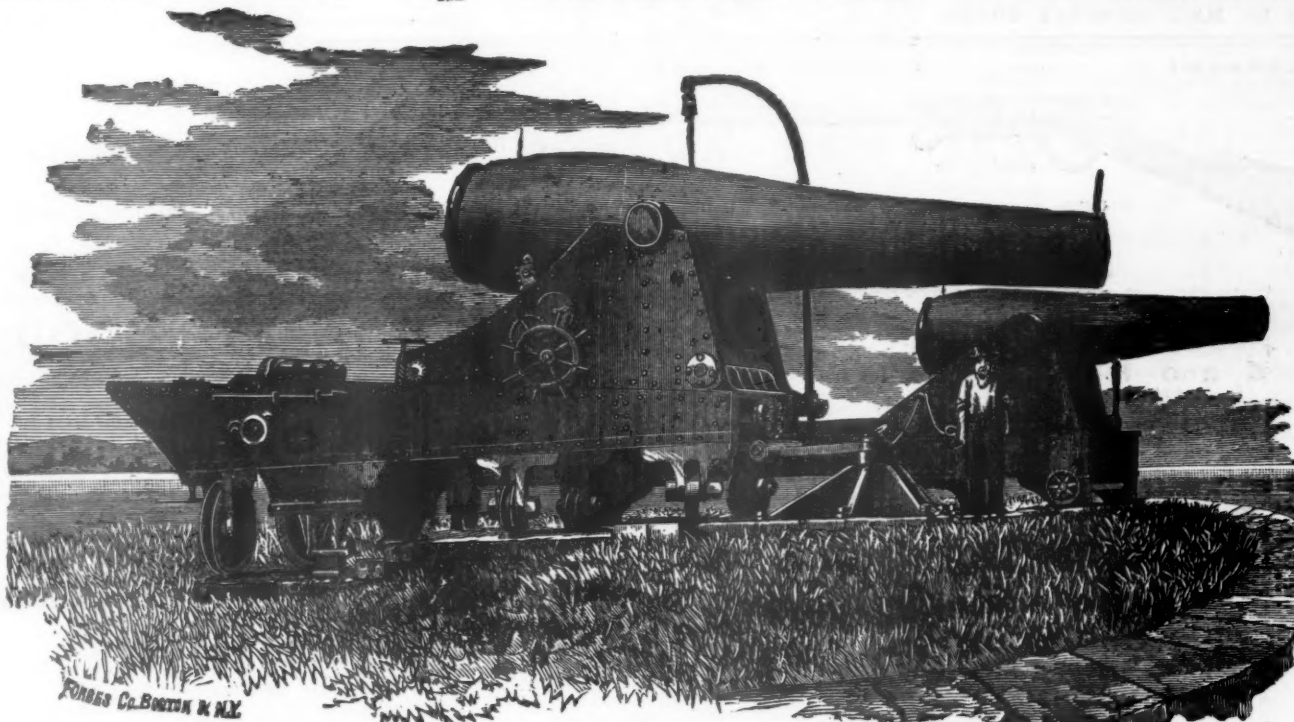
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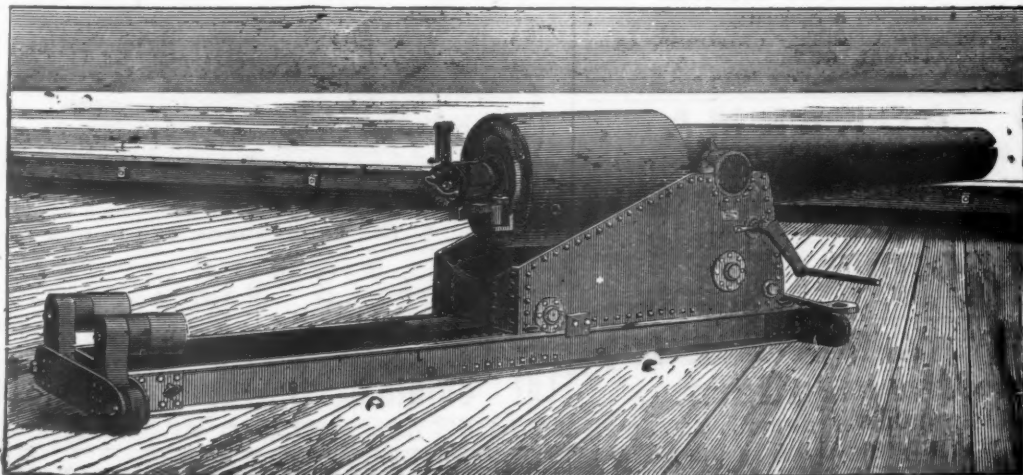
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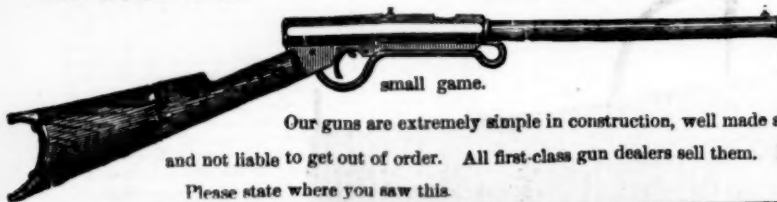
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